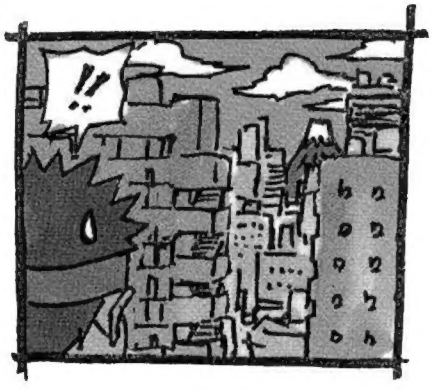
JUMP COMICS

苦境…!!

巻ノ二十三

NARUTO
-ナルト-

岸本斉史



岸本斉史

It's been a year since I moved into my current apartment and I just recently realized something... I can see Mt. Fuji from my porch. It took me this long to notice!

—*Masashi Kishimoto, 2004*

Author/artist Masashi Kishimoto was born in 1974 in rural Okayama Prefecture, Japan. After spending time in art college, he won the Hop Step Award for new manga artists with his manga **Karakuri** (Mechanism). Kishimoto decided to base his next story on traditional Japanese culture. His first version of **Naruto**, drawn in 1997, was a one-shot story about fox spirits; his final version, which debuted in **Weekly Shonen Jump** in 1999, quickly became the most popular ninja manga in Japan.

JUMP COMICS

NARUTO

-ナルト-

巻ノ二十二

苦境…!!

岸本斉史

主な登場人物

うちは
サスケ

うずまき
ナルト

春野サクラ

奈良シカマル

犬塚キバ&
赤丸

秋道チョウジ

日向ネジ

音の四人衆

左近

次郎坊

多由也

鬼童丸

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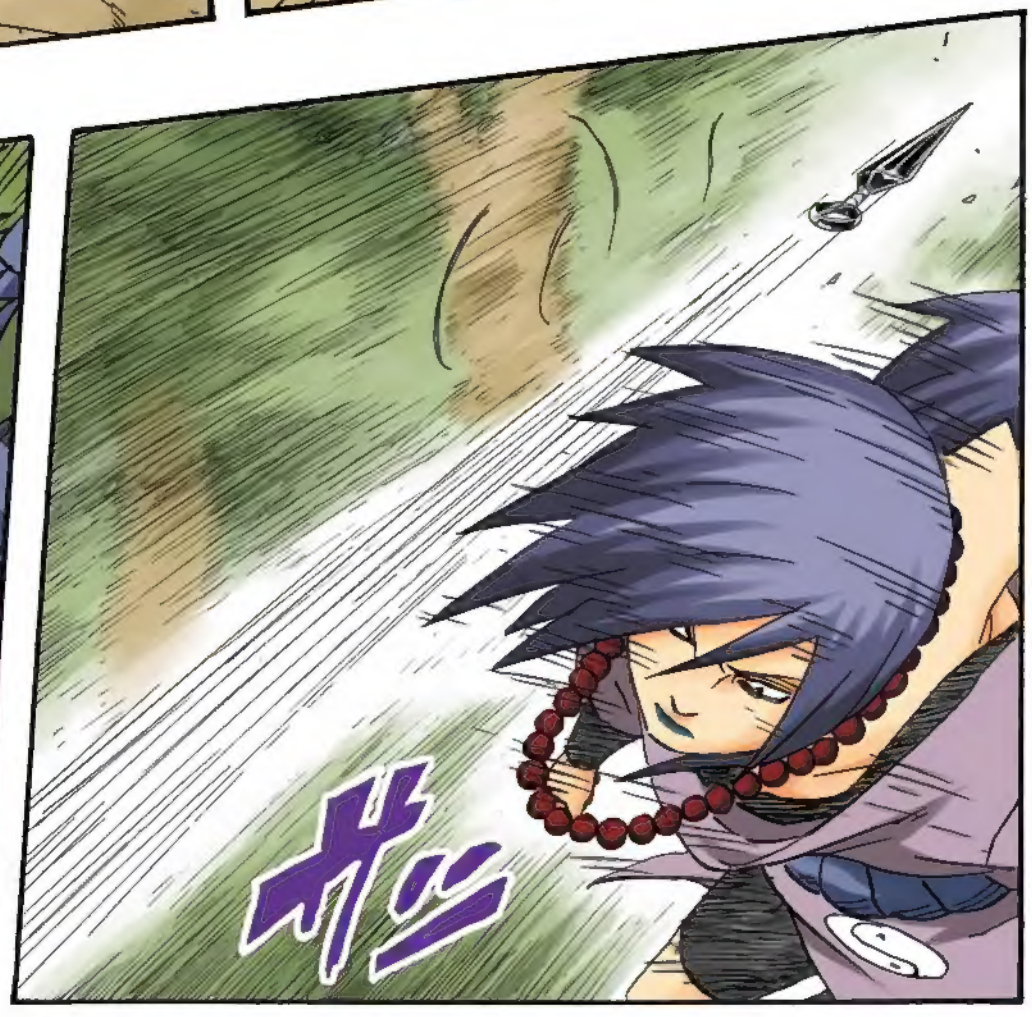
前巻までのあらすじ

200: ACCORDING TO PLAN...!!

ナンバー 200：計算通り(けいさんどお)…!!

DOESN'T WASTE ANY TIME, DOES HE?!
イッ
ｻﾞｯ

ｸﾙﾘ


ｻﾞﾝ

EAT THIS...

ガッ

7!!

TARENKEN! MULTIPLE FISTS BARRAGE!!

ドドド

オオオオオオ

!!

THAT'S CHAKRA IN HIS HAND...

ボン

ボン

!!

SHADOW DOPPEL-GANGER TRANSFOR-MATION...?

RASEN-GAN! SPIRAL CHAKRA SPHERE!!

WHAT? MY HAND ...!

UGH... KIBA, NOW!

IT'S POINT-LESS IF I GET YOUR HAND FIRST!

TSUUGA! TUNNELING FANG!!

ガッ

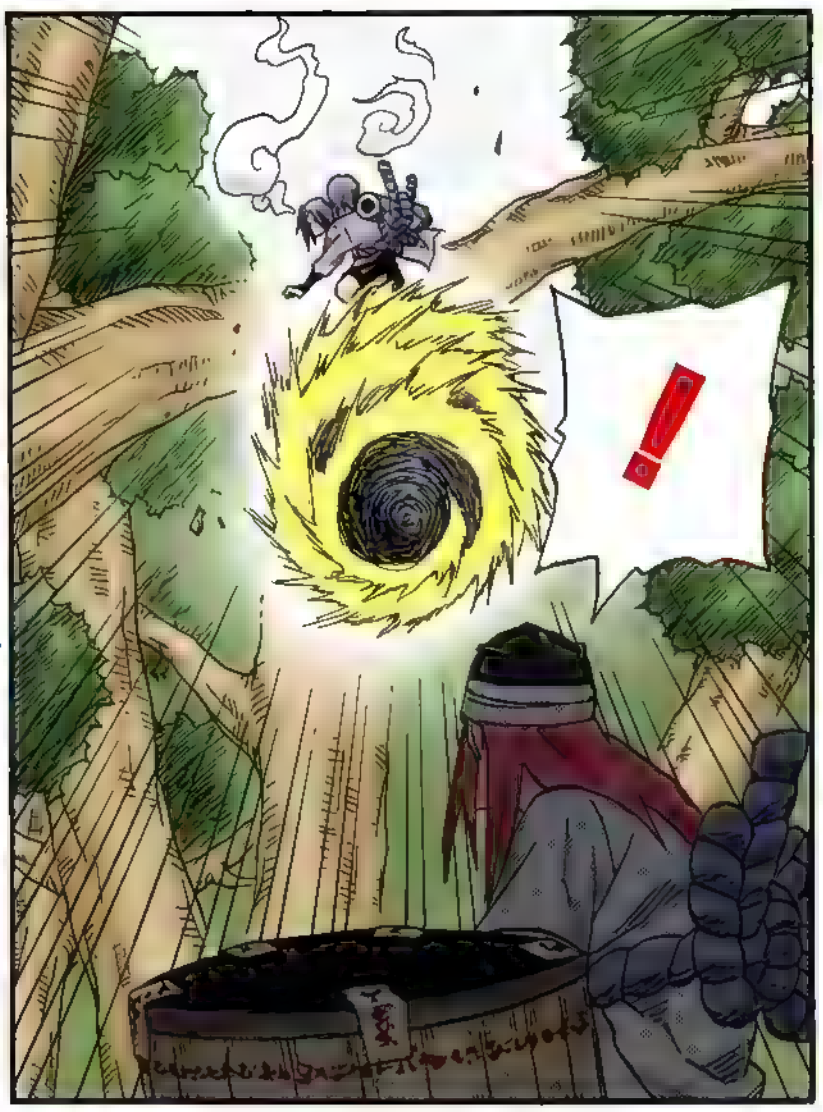
!!

TSK!

THIS ONE'S A SHADOW DOPPEL-GANGER TOO!!

#11

THEY WERE AIMING FOR ME FROM THE START!
BY LURING SAKON AND ME INTO ALIGN-MENT...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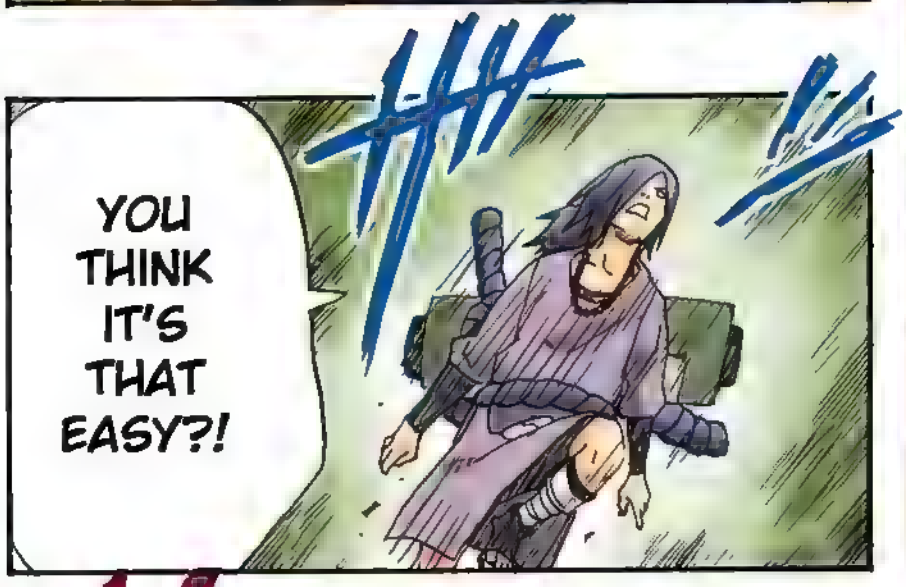
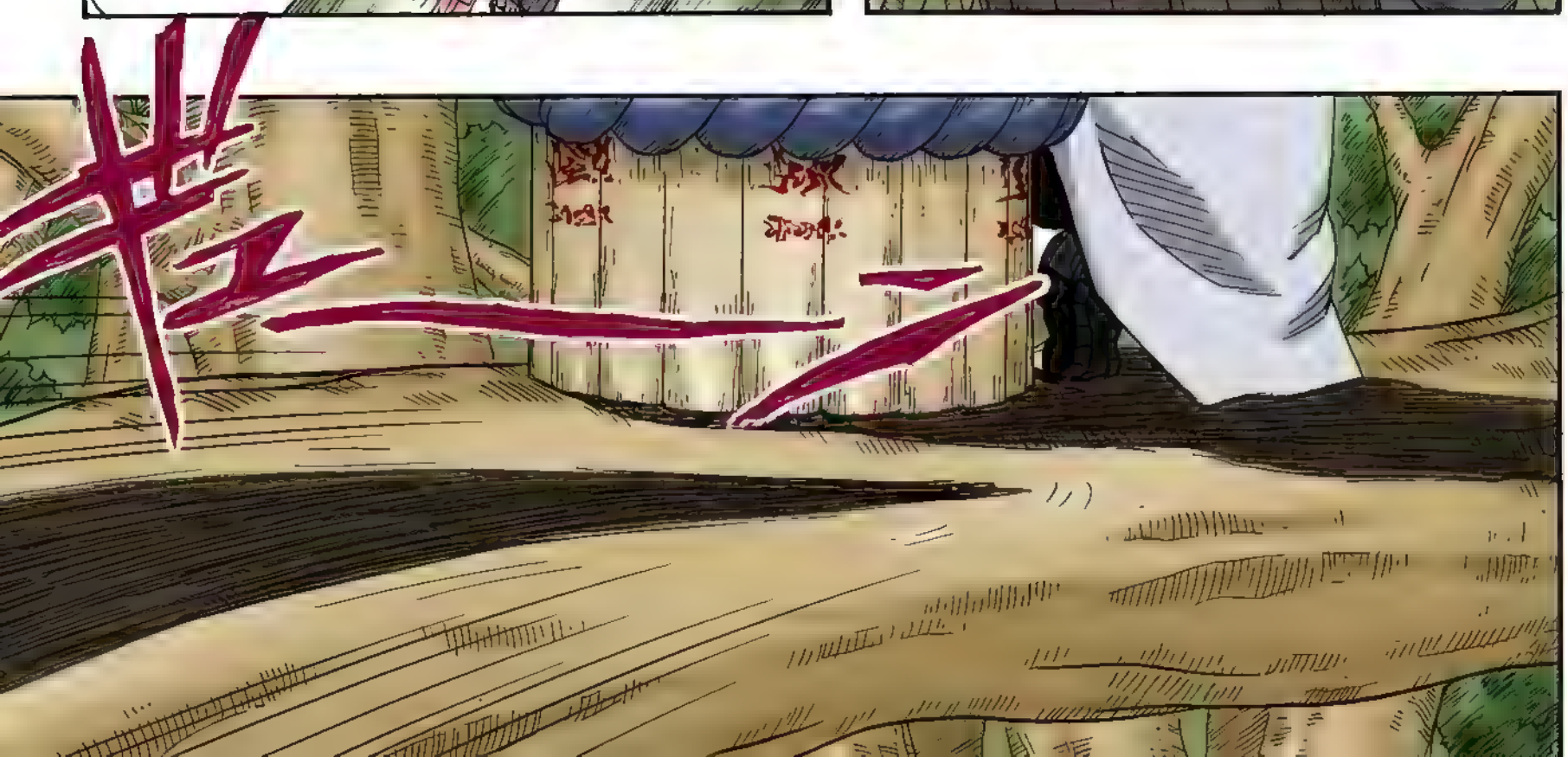

YOU THINK IT'S THAT EASY?!



ビクン

!?

ピク

A DIVER-SION...

NO... HE GOT ME.

KAGEMANE NO JUTSU! SHADOW POSSESSION TECHNIQUE!! SUCCESS!

HERE IT COMES!

ズ

!?

キュオオオオ

オオオ

TAYUYA, QUIT DAY-DREAM-ING!

!!

I'M NOT ...!

ガコ

OOF!!

NO... I CAN'T DODGE.

WATCH OUT!

プチン

SIGH...

TOO MUCH INDIVIDUAL SKILL CAN BE A LIABILITY TOO.

SLOPPY AS ALWAYS.

CATCH!

!!!

WE'RE AT LEAST A STEP AHEAD OF THEM.

JUST AS PLANNED!!

KIBA! SHIKA-MARU!!

NICE JOB!

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!

NARUTO, SHIKA-MARU.

YOU TRASH, DON'T MESS WITH US...

PUNKS...

ザッ

……

トン トン

ズン..

……

ダッ

YOU WON'T GET AWAY !!

ズズズ…

HE'S FASTER THAN I THOUGHT!!

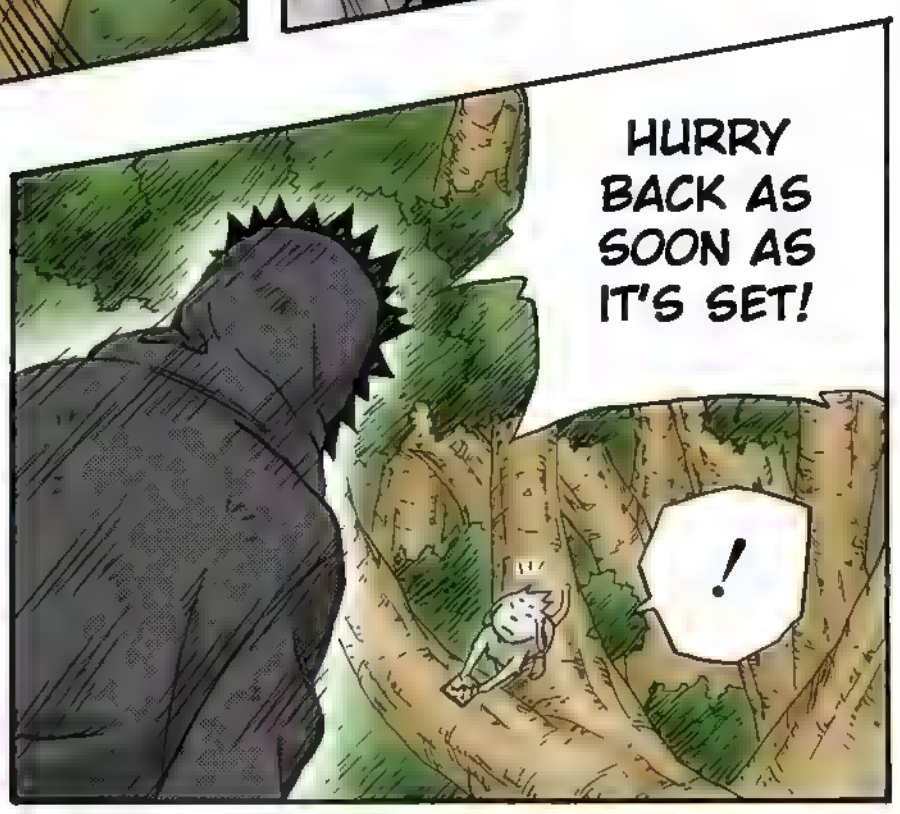
!!

!

WOOF!!

AKA-
MARU!!

!


HURRY
BACK AS
SOON AS
IT'S SET!
!

DON'T "WOOF" ME, MUTT!!

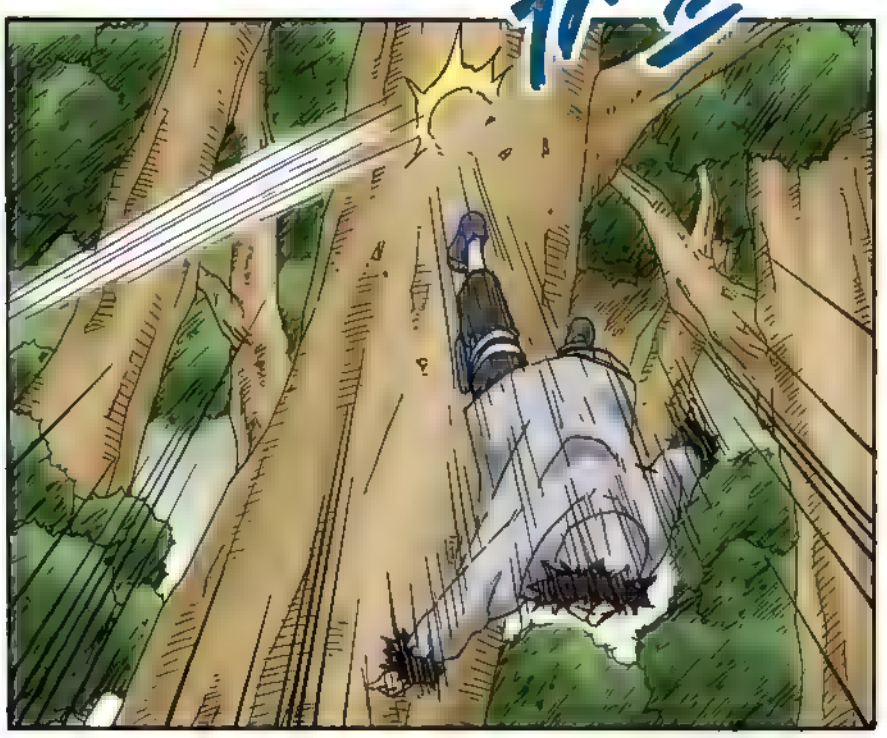
WHINE...

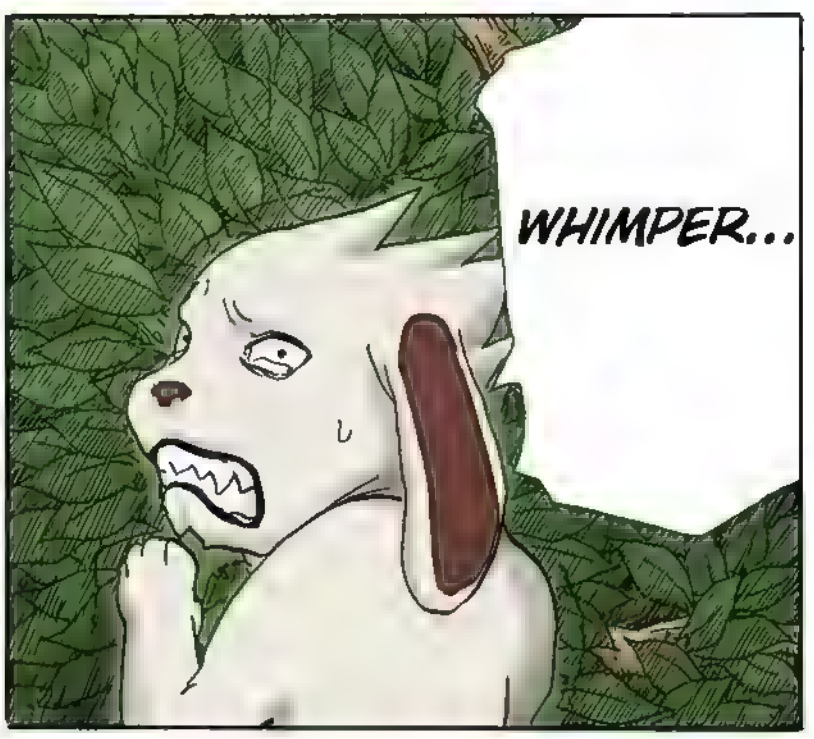
!!

!

ミシボシ!

WHIMPER...


ガッ


WHIMPER...

ボン

ボン

NGH...

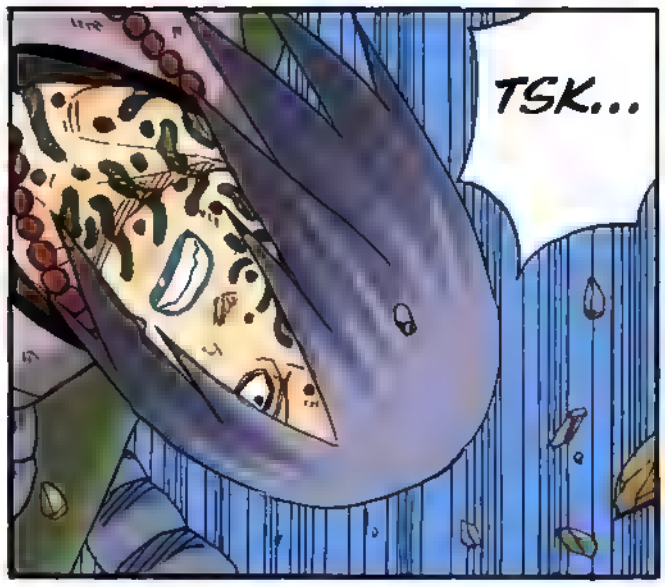
ボン

UGH!

KIBA! AKA-MARU!!

OH, NO...

カガシ


TSK...

...NO...

WHOAAAH!!

NO WAY! WHAT'S WITH THEM?!

HERE COMES THE OTHER ONE!!

PUNKS!!

NARUTO, YOU GO AHEAD WITH THE COFFIN!

OH, MAN... I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT.

.....!

JUST GO!

SHIKA-MARU ...

.....

WH... WHY ARE YOU...?

スッ

ザッ

ダン

KIMIMARO.

!?

201: MISCALCULATION...!!

ナンバー 201：計算違い(けいさんちが)…!!

FOOSH

FOOSH

CLAK

TOK

PAP

TAK

WHOA!

RUSTLE

RUSTLE

SHHF

RUSTLE

RUSTLE

WHAT?!

.....

I MISCAL-CULATED ...

...SORRY... NARUTO.

!?

YOU'RE LATE... TAYUYA

THIS FROM THE FORMER MEMBERS OF THE SOUND NINJA FIVE...

AND WHAT OF THE OTHER THREE?

.....

!?

CAN'T YOU EVEN DIE...?

HMPH.

I NO LONGER MOVE USING FLESH...

I USE THE POWER OF MY MIND.

YOUR BODY...

YOUR BODY CAN'T...

WHY ARE YOU...?

UGH...

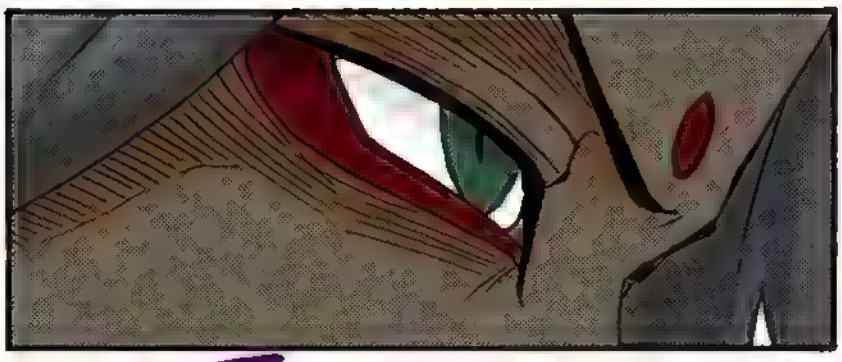
OROCHI-MARU...!

GRRR

I FEEL RELEASE FROM THE PRISON OF THE FLESH...

...AS IF I CAN TOUCH JUST A SMALL PART OF LORD OROCHIMARU'S DREAM.

I CAN FEEL IT A LITTLE NOW...



GASP
!!

I HAVE TO ASSESS... STAY COOL...
...ANOTHER FREAK TO DEAL WITH...

THIS IS THE DREAM VESSEL...
封
封
BUT YOU ALL WERE TOO LATE...

GIVE SASUKE BACK!!

FOOSH

HEY! I DON'T UNDER-STAND A WORD YOU'RE SAYING!

!!

SHF

HEY, NARUTO ...

!!

WAIT!!

WHAM

TAYUYA...

TSK...

TMP

SHWOO

PAP

UNH...

...SO YOU CAN LIVE TO FULFILL YOUR MISSION.

SHF

I WON'T KILL YOU...

!!

TSK...

SHF

TUP

I'LL LEAVE THESE TWO PESTS TO YOU.

FWIP

WE MUST BRING SASUKE BACK TO KONOHA.

.....

RATS!

RATS!

CALM DOWN, NARUTO!

.....

I JUST CAN'T FIGURE OUT HOW.

!

NARUTO!

DO AS I SAY!

HMPH... HE'S A TYPICAL SHORT-RANGE IDIOT ONLY GOOD AT SHADOW DOPPEL-GANGERS.

AND HE'S A MID-RANGE TYPE WHO TIES ENEMIES UP WITH HIS SHADOW ARTS... AND A SHARP-MINDED LEADER...

THAT'S IT! TIME TO FINISH THIS!

BRING IT, PUNKS.

YEAH ...!

GOT IT...?

ALRIGHT!!

LET'S GO, NARUTO!!

FOOSH

IT'S TWO ON ONE!!

WE CAN TAKE HER!

COME ON!!

YOU SHOULDN'T UNDER-ESTIMATE US!!

CHARGE!!

HMPH! IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW MANY OF YOU THERE ARE.

NOW!!

CLANK

YOU'RE OVER!

.....

!

!!

SUCCESS!

FOOLED YA!

.....

TEAM-WORK? THIS IS CHEAT-ING!

WHAT?! YOU TRICKED ME!

TAK

SCUFF

!!

REMEMBER... JUTSU ISN'T ALL A NINJA KNOWS.

WELL... AT LEAST NARUTO GOT AWAY...

YOU CAN'T BE FOOLED TWICE?

TUP

HANG IN THERE, SHIKAMARU!

GRR

I'M COMING SASUKE!!

KABUTO... YOUR ORDERS TO HIM MUST HAVE BEEN QUITE SEVERE.

MY... TO THINK HE COULD MOVE WITH HIS BODY IN SUCH A STATE...

HE DID THIS ON HIS OWN...

...FOR YOU...HE WORSHIPS YOU.

I'M NOT VERY FOND OF COERCION ...

NO, I GAVE NO ORDERS ...

KABUTO...

YOU ARE DESPICABLE...

LORD OROCHIMARU... KIMIMARO WAS PERFECT.

HIS THOUGHTS IMMERSED IN DARKNESS, JUST LIKE YOURS...

AND HE DEIFIED YOU, WORSHIPPED AND ADORED YOU.

I STILL THINK... HE WAS THE ONE I WISHED FOR IN MY HEART... THE LEAST LIKELY TO BE DESTROYED. KIMIMARO.

YES... WHENEVER I THINK OF HAVING LOST HIM MY SKIN CRAWLS...

...OR HAD... UNTIL RECENTLY.

HIS CLAN HAS STRONG BODIES... GENUINE KEKKEI GENKAI BLOODLINE...

AND YOU WOULDN'T SUFFER LIKE THIS.

HAD HE NOT BEEN ILL, THE HOKAGE'S ASSASSINATION WOULD'VE GONE SMOOTHLY.

ALSO...

THAT TOO IS MERELY A MATTER OF TIME... LORD OROCHIMARU.

.....

IN THIS WORLD... IT SEEMS THAT THINGS DON'T GO AS WE WISH THEY WOULD.

SHOOM

SHF

SIGH.

TAK

GLANCE

HEY...!

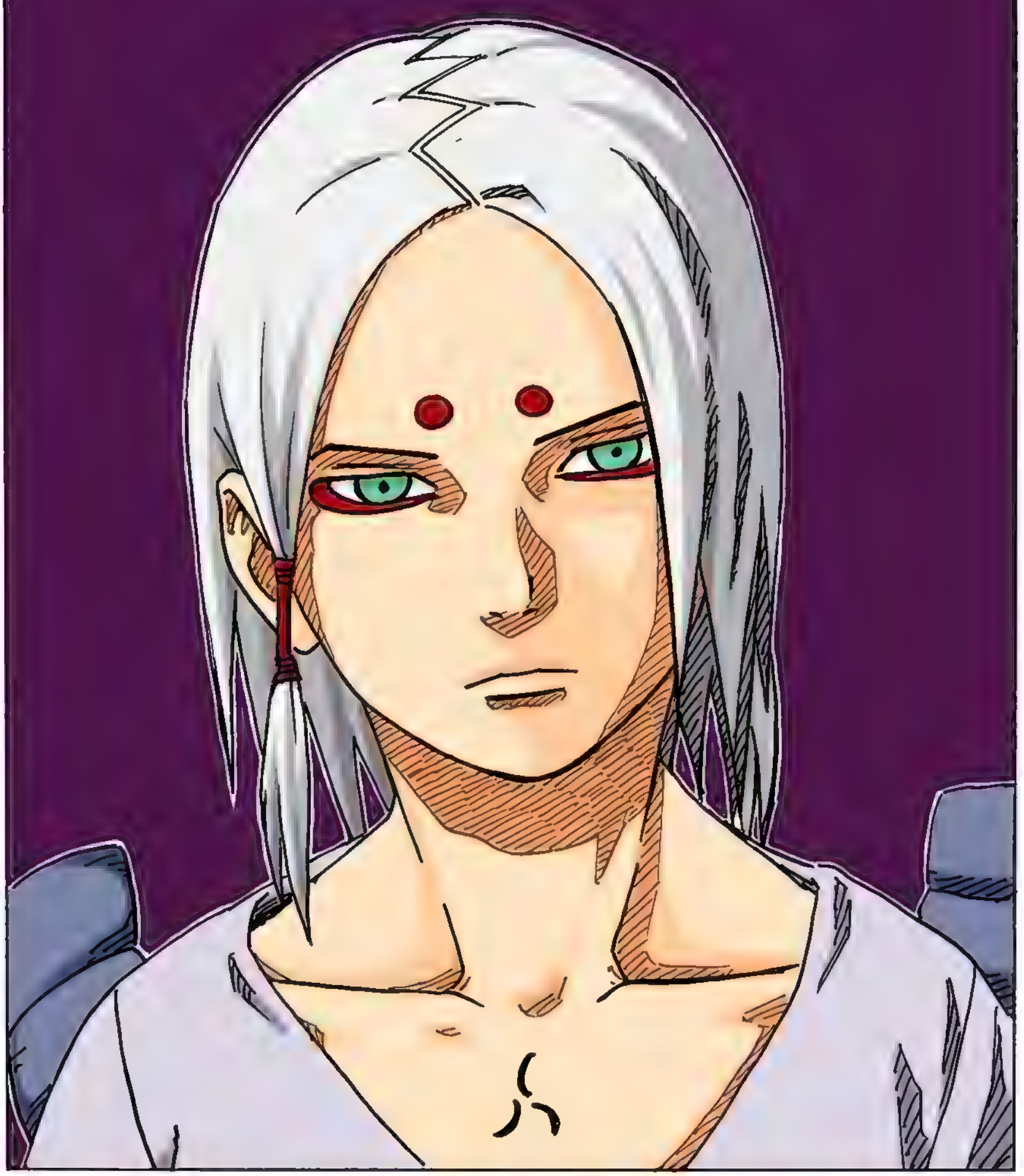
BAM

.....

NOW THEN... SHALL WE MAKE THIS QUICK?

ZYUU

ナンバー202：三つの願い!!



CHAPTER 202: THREE WISHES!!

!?

THOSE EYES...

YOU...

.....

HMM... HIS... CHAKRA IS PECULIAR.

GRRR

WHAT DOES HE WANT WITH SASUKE?!

WHAT'S OROCHI-MARU DOING?!

LORD OROCHIMARU HAS ALREADY MASTERED THE ART OF IMMORTALITY.

BUT IT TAKES TIME TO LEARN *EVERYTHING.*

.....

IMMORTALITY DOESN'T MEAN YOUR FLESH LIVES ON AS IS...

BEFORE THE BODY DECAYS, ANOTHER STRONG BODY MUST BE OBTAINED AS A VESSEL FOR THE SOUL.

WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH SASUKE?!

SASUKE ...?!

THEN ...

GRRR

I WON'T LET THAT HAPPEN...

SSH

YES...

PRECISELY ...

IDIOT... WHAT DO YOU THINK A TWERP LIKE YOU CAN DO?

IS THIS SASUKE, OR WHATEVER HIS NAME IS, SO IMPORTANT TO YOU?

.....

AND... CONSIDERING THE TIME YOU'VE SPENT GETTING THIS FAR...

EVERY TIME YOU CATCH UP WITH US, YOU SACRIFICE ONE OF YOUR TEAMMATES IN THE PROCESS...

HEH HEH... SWEET, BUT A COMPLETELY USELESS GESTURE!

YOU'D SACRIFICE EVERYONE FOR JUST ONE TEAMMATE...?

HAH...

.....

.....

I WAS TOO WORRIED ABOUT LOSING SOMEONE...

I WASN'T SURE IF I'D MADE THE RIGHT DECISION.

THIS IS MY FIRST TIME OUT AS THE LEADER...

I SHOULD'VE PLACED MORE VALUE ON THE LIVES OF MY TEAMMATES INSTEAD OF ONE PERSON ABDUCTED BY THE ENEMY.

THE RIGHT THING TO DO WOULD'VE BEEN TO ABORT THIS RECKLESS MISSION.

AS LEADER, MY TEAMMATES' LIVES ARE IN MY HANDS...

THINGS DON'T ALWAYS WORK BY THE BOOK IN THIS WORLD.

THEN, WHY DIDN'T YOU?

THERE'S NO ONE IN MY SQUAD WHO WOULD DO THAT.

BESIDES, ABANDONING A TEAMMATE...

...TO PROTECT YOURSELF...?

ALL I CAN DO FOR MY COMRADES...

ANYWAY, A LAZY DAYDREAMER LIKE ME IS A POOR EXCUSE FOR A LEADER...

.....

.....

NOT EVEN ME.

I DON'T EVEN THINK THEY'RE DEAD...

LISTEN UP...

...I DON'T THINK THEY'RE SACRIFICES.

...IS BELIEVE IN THEM...

SKF

!

FWIP

SPLASH

DON'T UNDERESTIMATE MY TEAM.

WHOAH!!

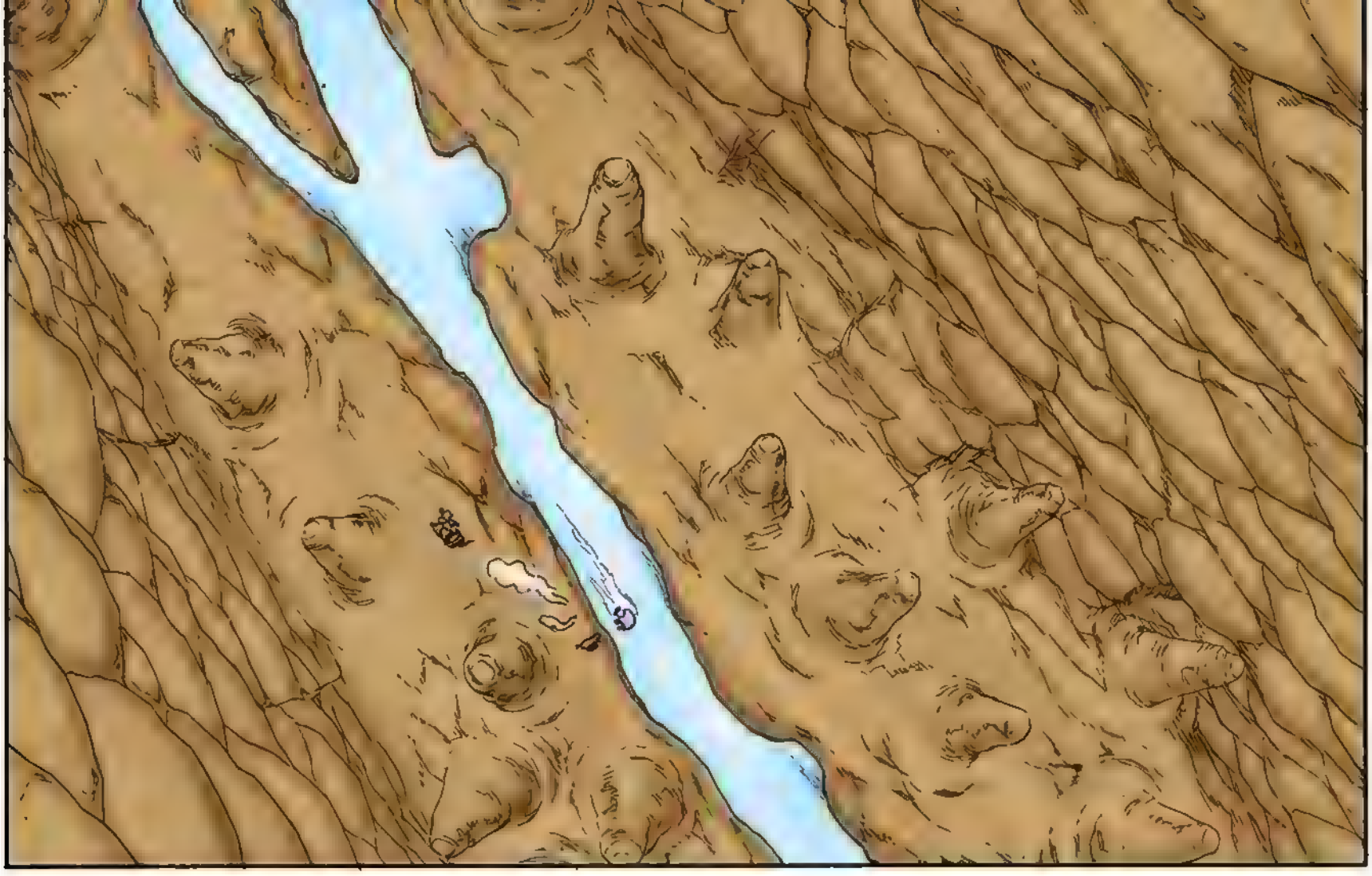
GRIN

GRAB

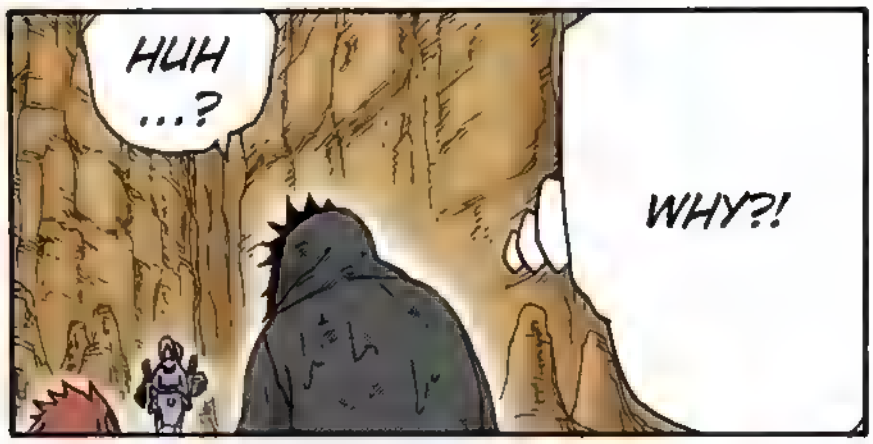
SLOOSH

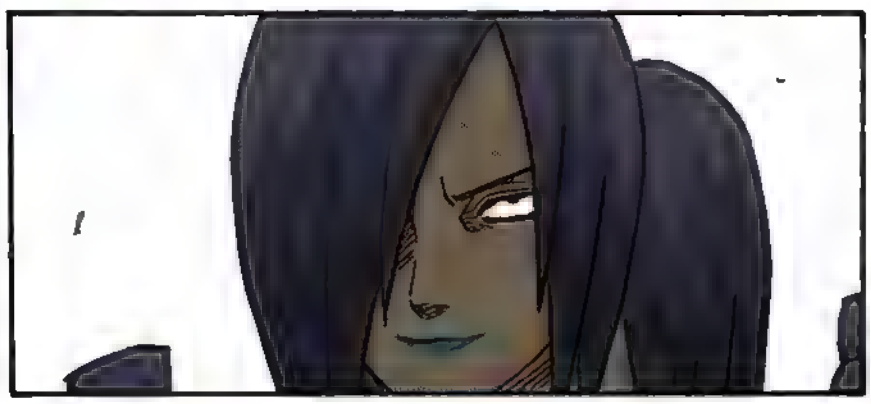
WOOF WOOF!

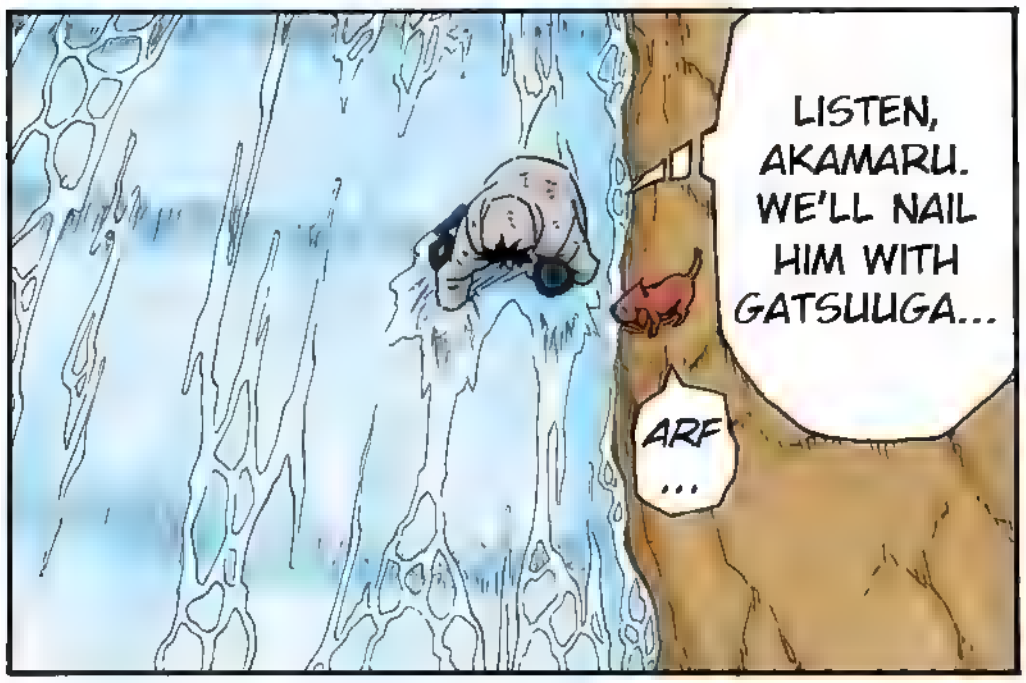
!?



AND HOW DID HE COUNTER?!
MY ATTACK WAS DEAD ON BUT NO EFFECT?!


HUH ...?
WHY?!




LISTEN, AKAMARU. WE'LL NAIL HIM WITH GATSUUGA...
ARF ...

TSK...

FOOSH

FOOF

SPLASH

!

SPLOSH

GATSUUGA! FANG-OVER-FANG!!

WHIRRR

BOOF
BAM
KUCHI-YOSE NO JUTSU! THE ART OF SUMMON-ING!!
BOOM
OH, NO... THIS IS BAD...
.....
ONNNG

IT'S YOU...

I'M GONNA PLAY A MELODY OF DEATH FOR YOU!

...WHO SHOULDN'T UNDER-ESTIMATE US!

THAK

WHAT IS THIS GUY?!

ZWIP

GRRMM

!?

RIGHT... SAKON?

TWO ON TWO. WORKS FOR ME.

THEY MIGHT'VE SENT PEOPLE CAPABLE OF STOPPING THEM.

OR MAYBE THEY'RE PLAYING AROUND...

BUT...WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT THE SOUND FOUR WOULD TAKE SO LONG...

...THE PLAYFUL KIDOMARU.

WELL, THE ONE WHO'S SLOWING THEM DOWN IS EITHER THE PERPETUALLY HUNGRY JIROBO OR...

HO HO...

TAYUYA IS NO LESS VAIN.

HO HO... WELL...

HE'S NOT SATISFIED UNTIL HE KILLS HIS FOE. HE COULD JUST LEAVE THEM, BUT...

HE'S THE STRONGEST OF THE SOUND FOUR. HE LIKES TO SHOW OFF.

HEH HEH... BUT SAKON'S THE MOST TROUBLESOME.

HE'LL CLEAN UP WHOEVER'S BECOME USELESS TO ME...

WELL... IN ANY CASE, NOW THAT KIMIMARO'S THERE, WE WON'T FAIL...

.....

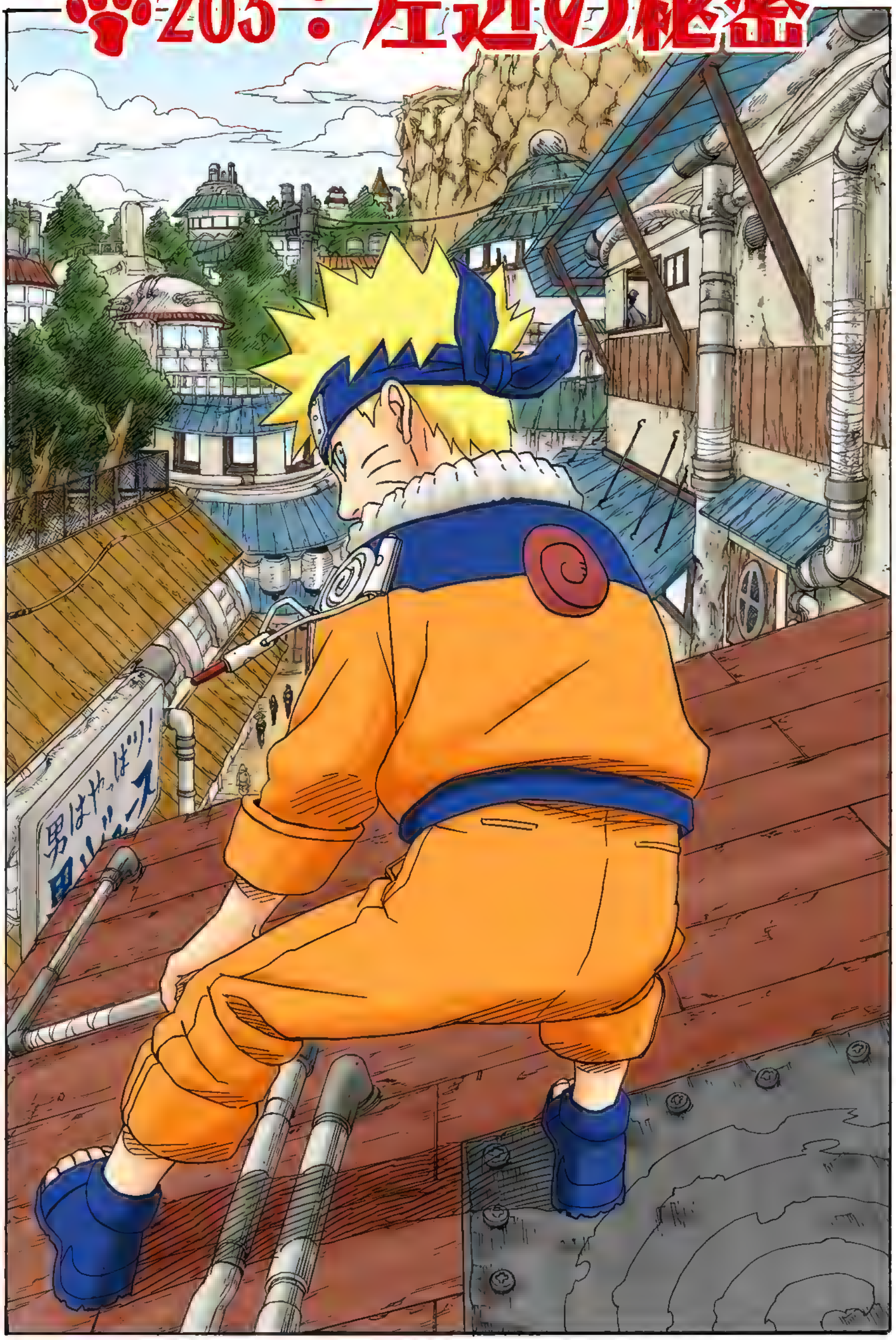
HMM.

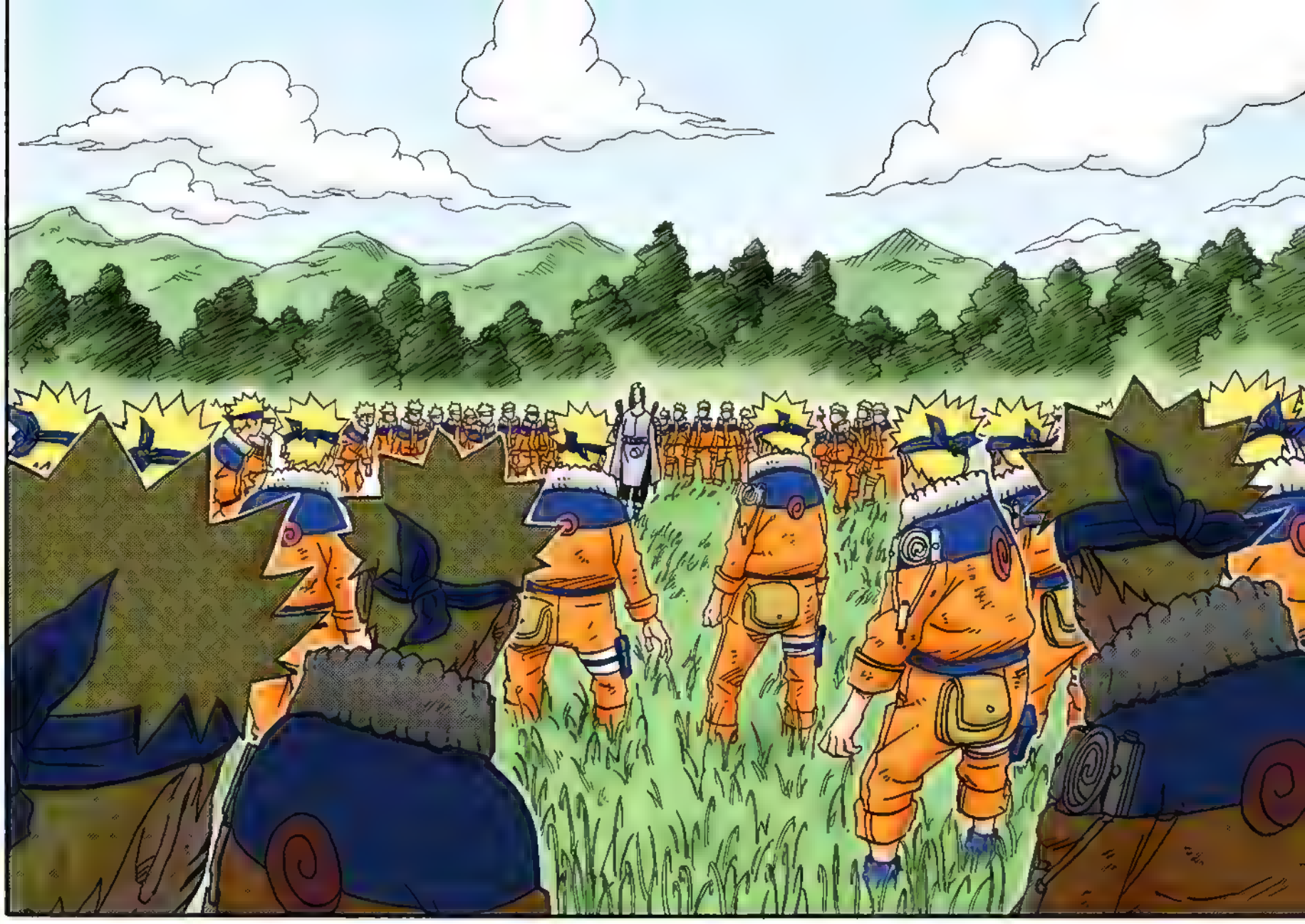
I WON'T GIVE UP ON SASUKE, NO MATTER WHAT...

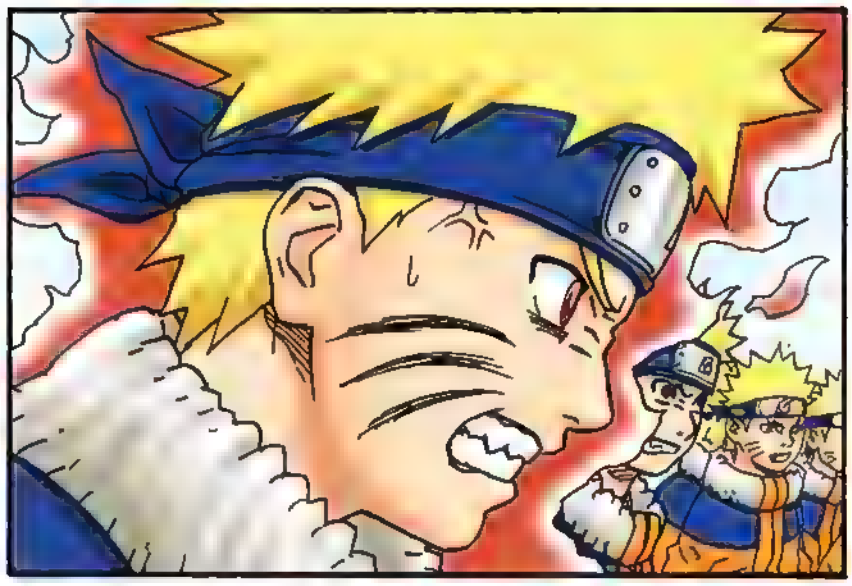
K.K.
ONNNNG
INTERESTING.

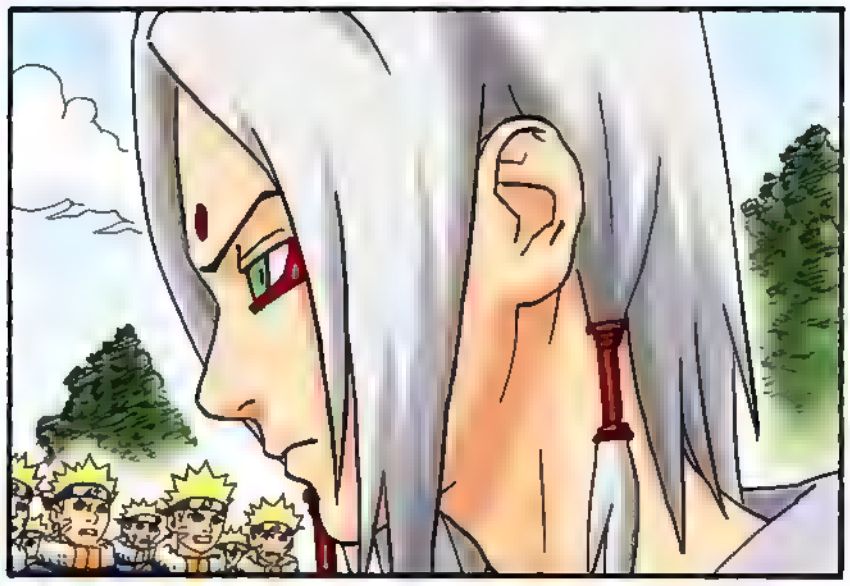
203: SAKON'S SECRET

ナンバー サコン ひみつ
203：左近の秘密









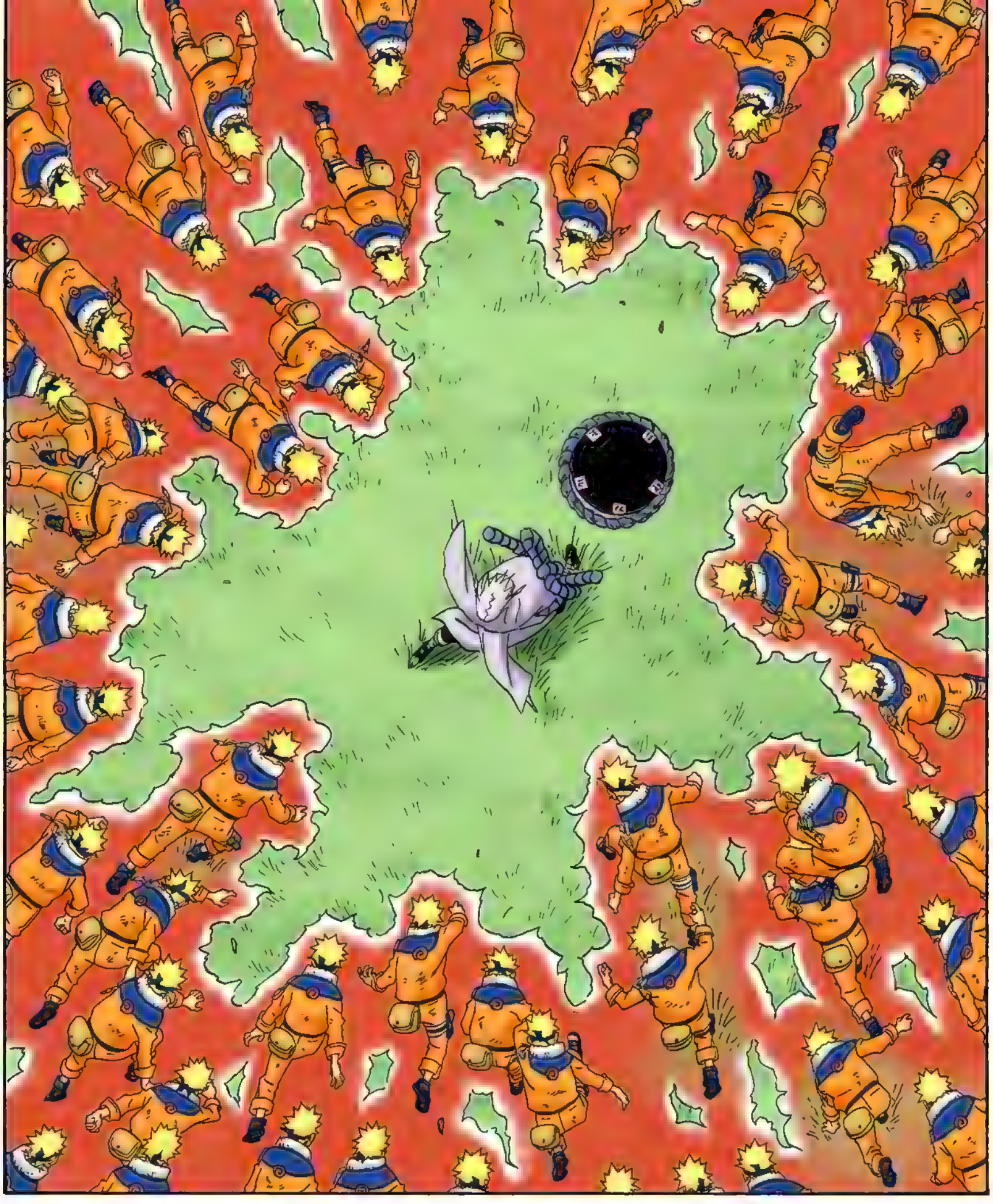
GRR
YOU'RE SO OVER!

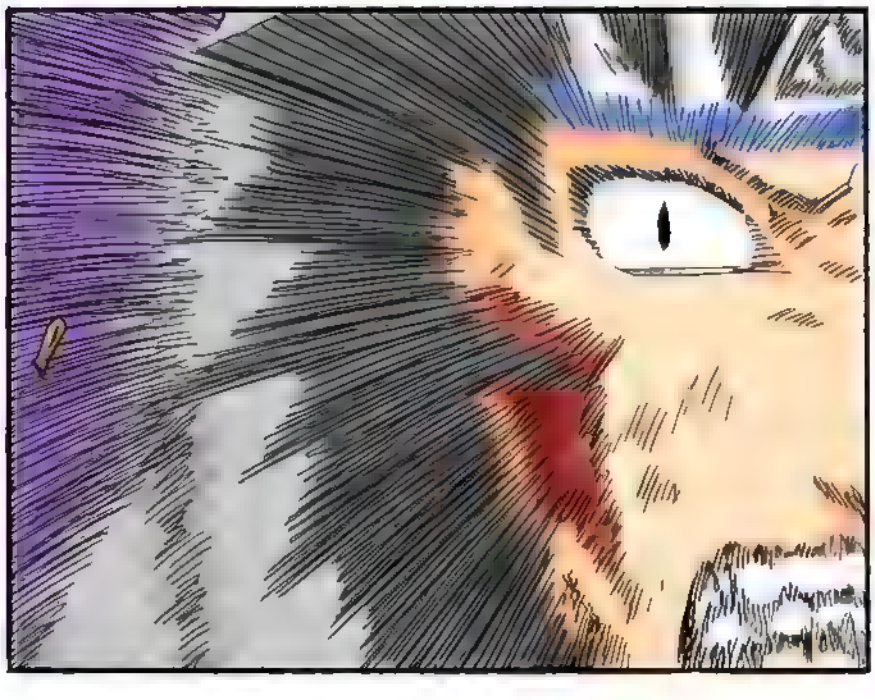
COME TO ME.
FFMM

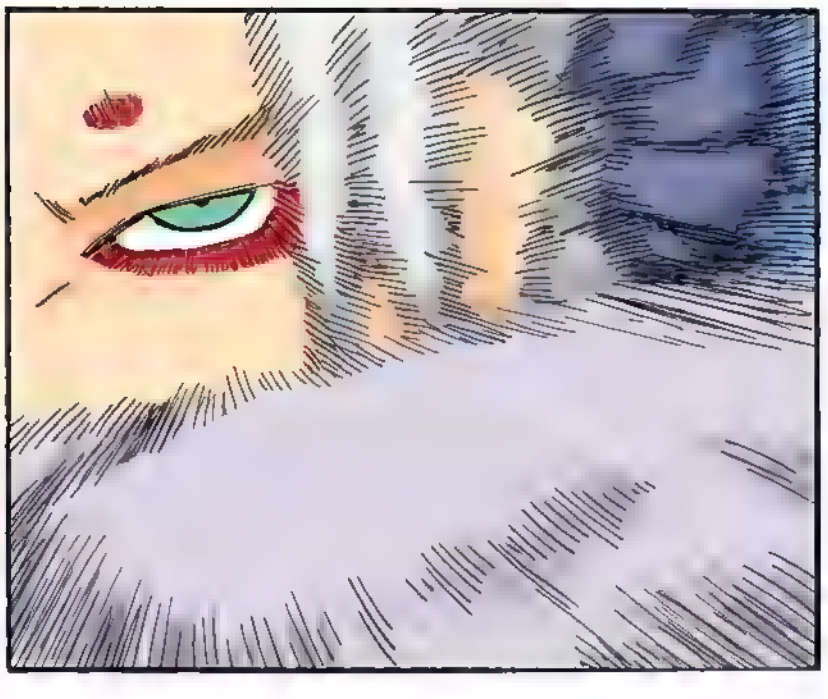
GAH

GRRRRRRRR

FOOSH







TARENKEN! MULTIPLE FISTS BARRAGE!!

SMASH

!

SWISH

HMPH...

NGH.

!

GRAB

WOULD YOU LIKE TO MEET MY BROTHER, UKON?

SHUU

...SO...

USUALLY MY BIG BROTHER SLEEPS INSIDE ME, BUT WHEN IT COMES TO A FIGHT, HE LIKES TO HELP.

SHUU

YOU KNOW, WE'RE INSEPA-RABLE...

SHUU

SHUU

SHUU

WOOF! WOOF!

LIKE THIS!

ゴッ

THOK

AGH!!

SKREED

AAUGH!!

WHIMPER!

A TRIPLE KICK! FEEL THE POWER? NOW...

TAREN-KYAKU! MULTIPLE LEGS BARRAGE!!

FWUP

THERE'S NO TIME FOR GAMES, SAKON.

WHUP

SHUU

THEY ALL DIE NOW!

ACTIVATE SECOND STATE!!

SHUUU

ズ…ズ…ズ…

YOU'RE IMPETUOUS, BIG BROTHER.

SHUU

!!?

SHIVER

WHIMPER.

HUF HUF

THE SITUATION WAS ALREADY HOPELESS WHEN THAT OTHER GUY SHOWED UP. NOW SAKON HAS TEN TIMES MORE CHAKRA...?

AKA-MARU ...

I SEE... YOU'RE SAYING THOSE HORNS AREN'T FAKE...

IN PIECES...

HOW DO YOU WANT THEM, BIG BROTHER?

YOU WANNA DO THAT?!

!!

WOOF WOOF!!

NO WAY, AKAMARU!

IT'S TOO DANGEROUS WITHOUT OUR COMRADES.

ARF!

OUCH ...!

WE'LL DIE HERE...

IF WE MESS UP...

YOU KNOW IF WE USE THAT JUTSU, BOTH OF US...

...OUR CHAKRA WILL RUN OUT AND WE WON'T BE ABLE TO MOVE ANYMORE.

AKA-MARU...

.....

TAP

WOOF! WOOF!

TAK

FOOSH

.....

AKAMARU... YOU'RE RIGHT. IT'S THE ONLY WAY...

HMPH... YOU BIT ME... I'M A PATHETIC MASTER.

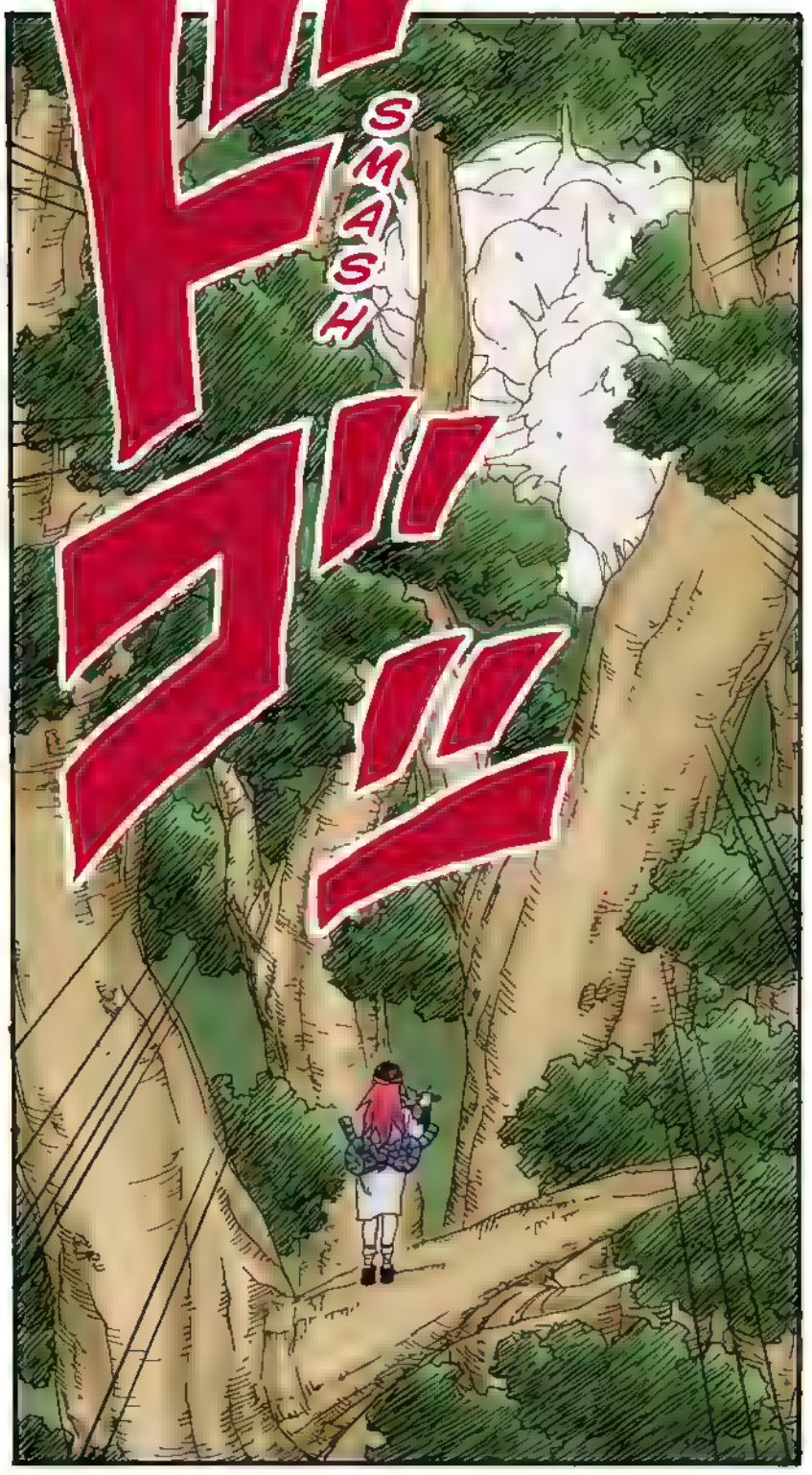
GAROGA! WOLF FANG- OVER- FANG!

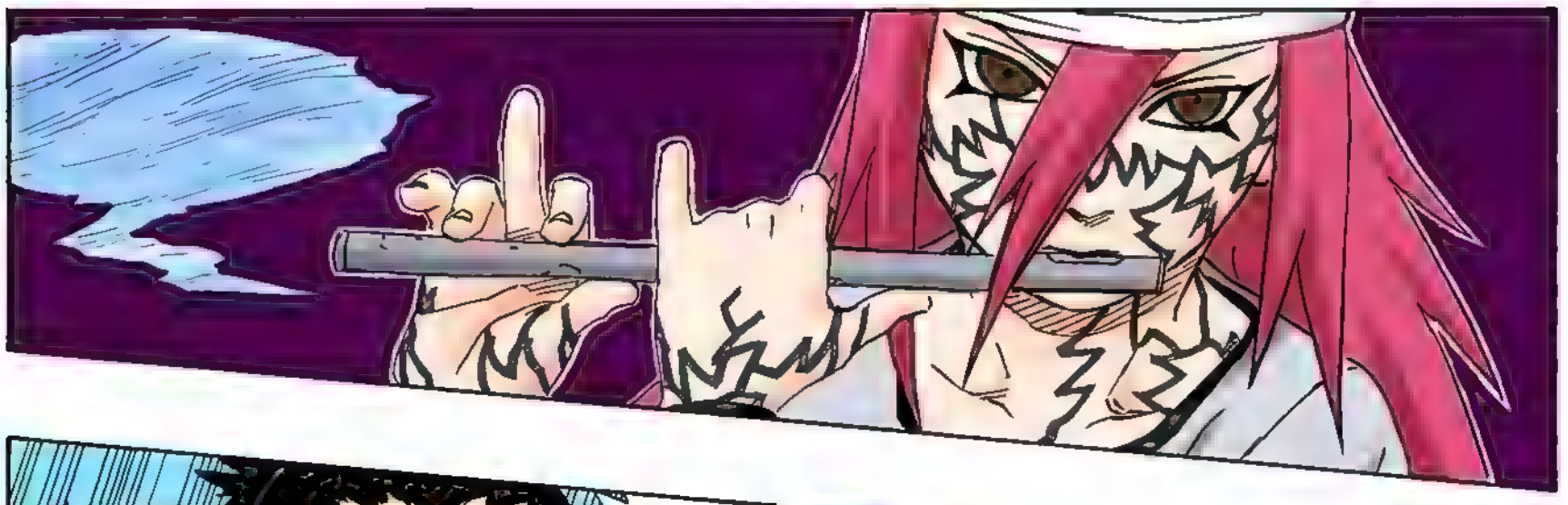
ARF!!

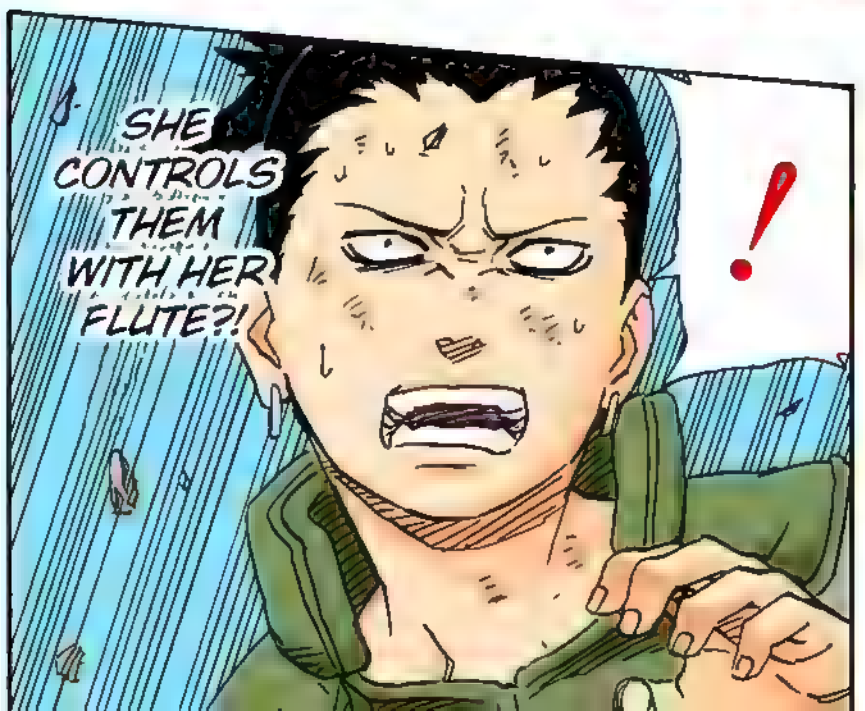
SKF

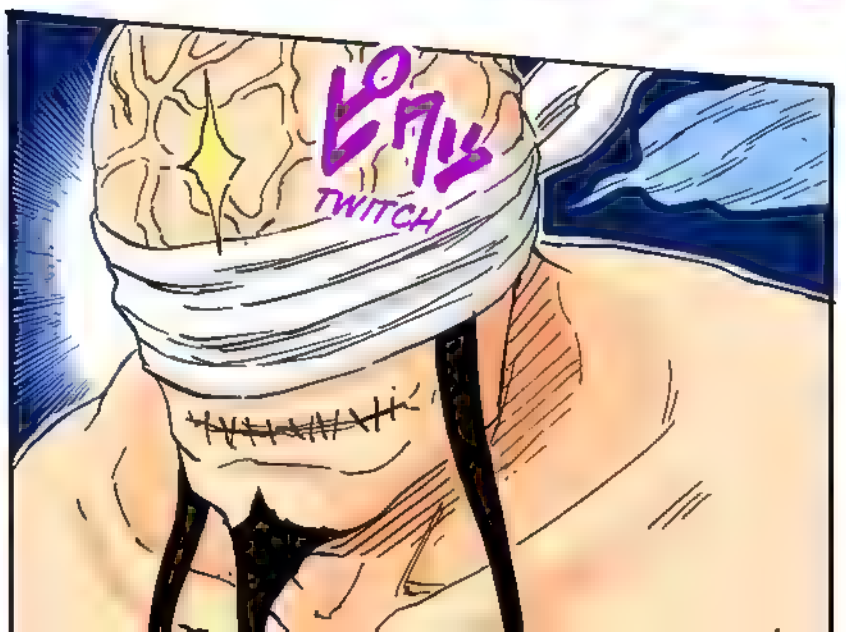
FFMM

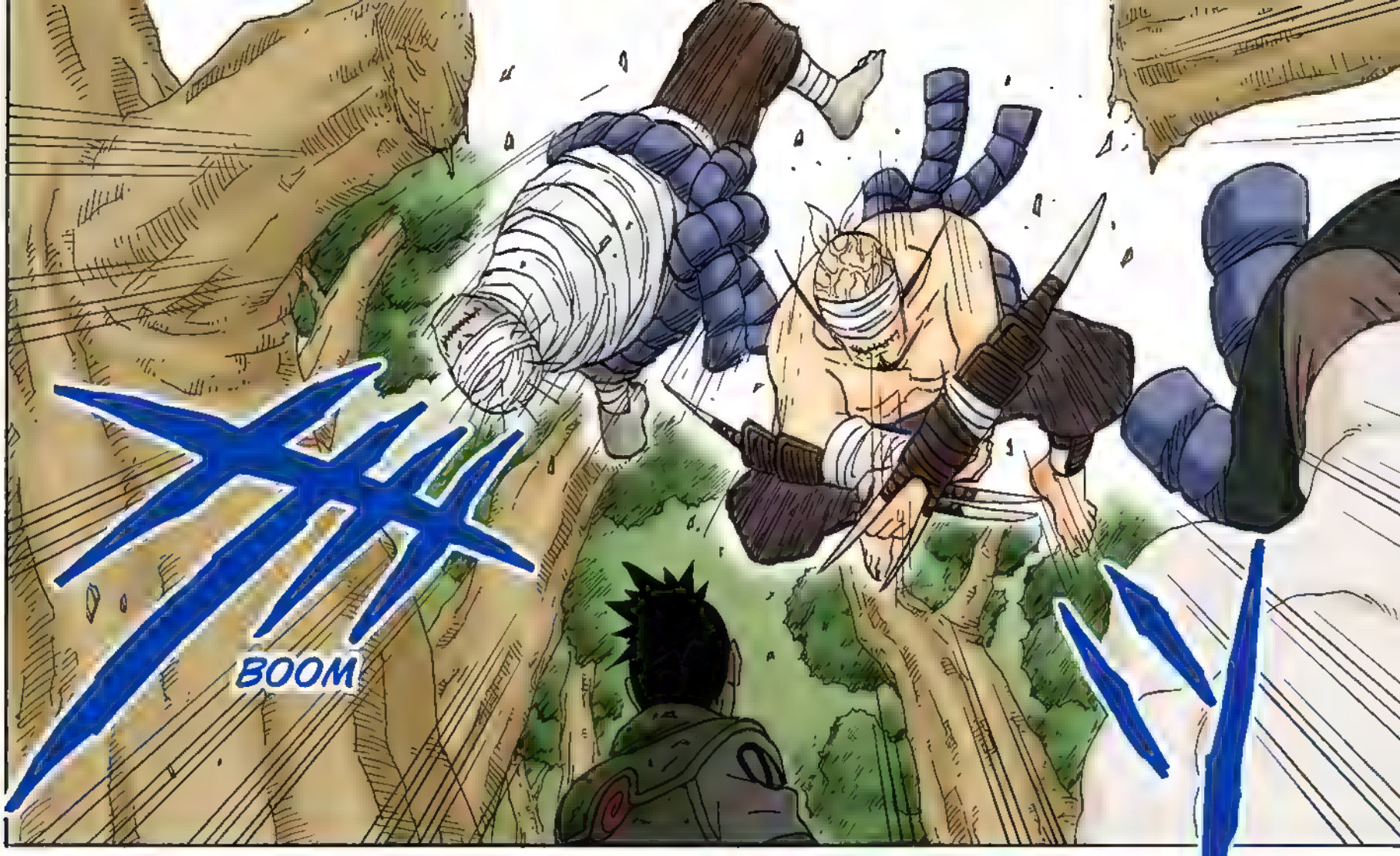
UGH!

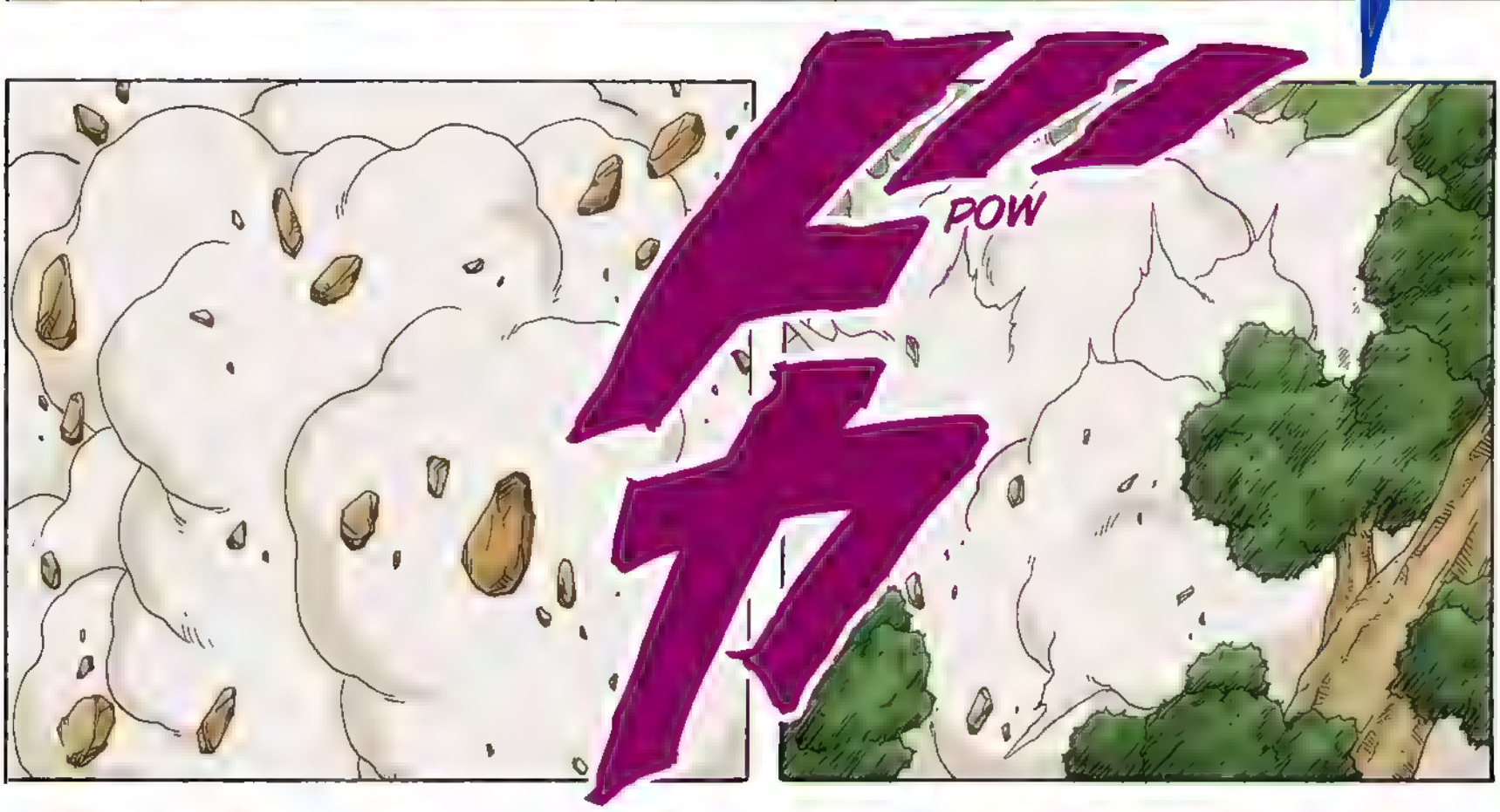

ドゴ!!
SMASH




SHE CONTROLS THEM WITH HER FLUTE?!
!


ピク
TWITCH


BOOM


POW

SPRAAY

ARF!

ダイナミックマーキング!!

DYNAMIC MARKING!!

AKA-MARU, NOW!

GRAB

!!

NOW WE'RE READY!

TAP

TAP

WHA... DID HE JUST ...?!

ZAP

TAK

!?

ボン

BOOF

いぬづかりゅう じんじゅうコンビへんげ 犬塚流 人獣混合変化!!

TUMP

FWUP

INUZUKA STYLE! MAN-BEAST TRANSFOR-MATION COMBO!!

ONNNG

GRR

双頭狼!!

SOTORO! TWO-HEADED WOLF!!

DRIP
DRIP

BAM

!

HEH-HEH-HEH AS IF IT MATTERED.

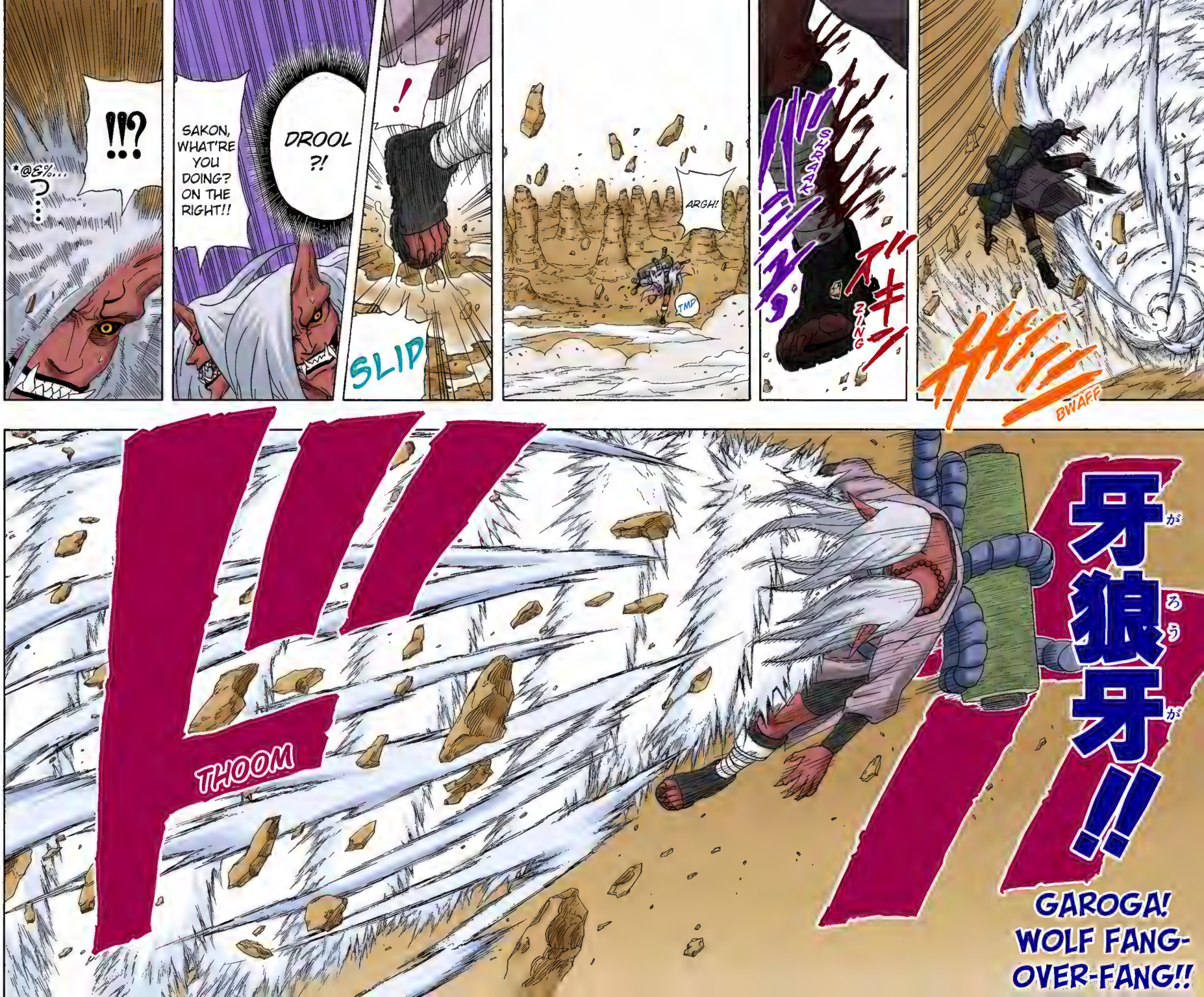
WHAT CAN A COUPLE OF DRIVELING DOGS DO...?

SWIP

EAT THIS!!

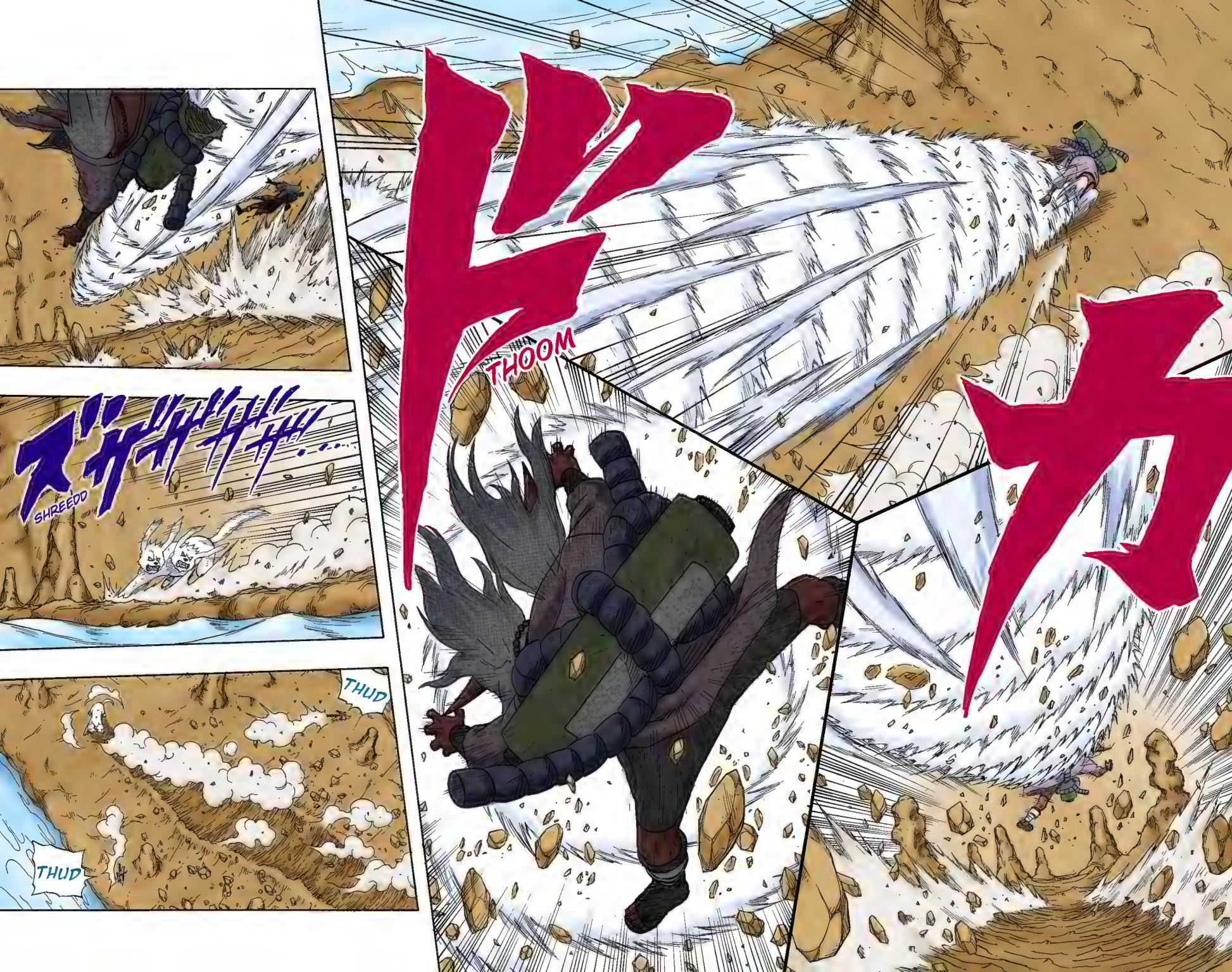
SHWOOP

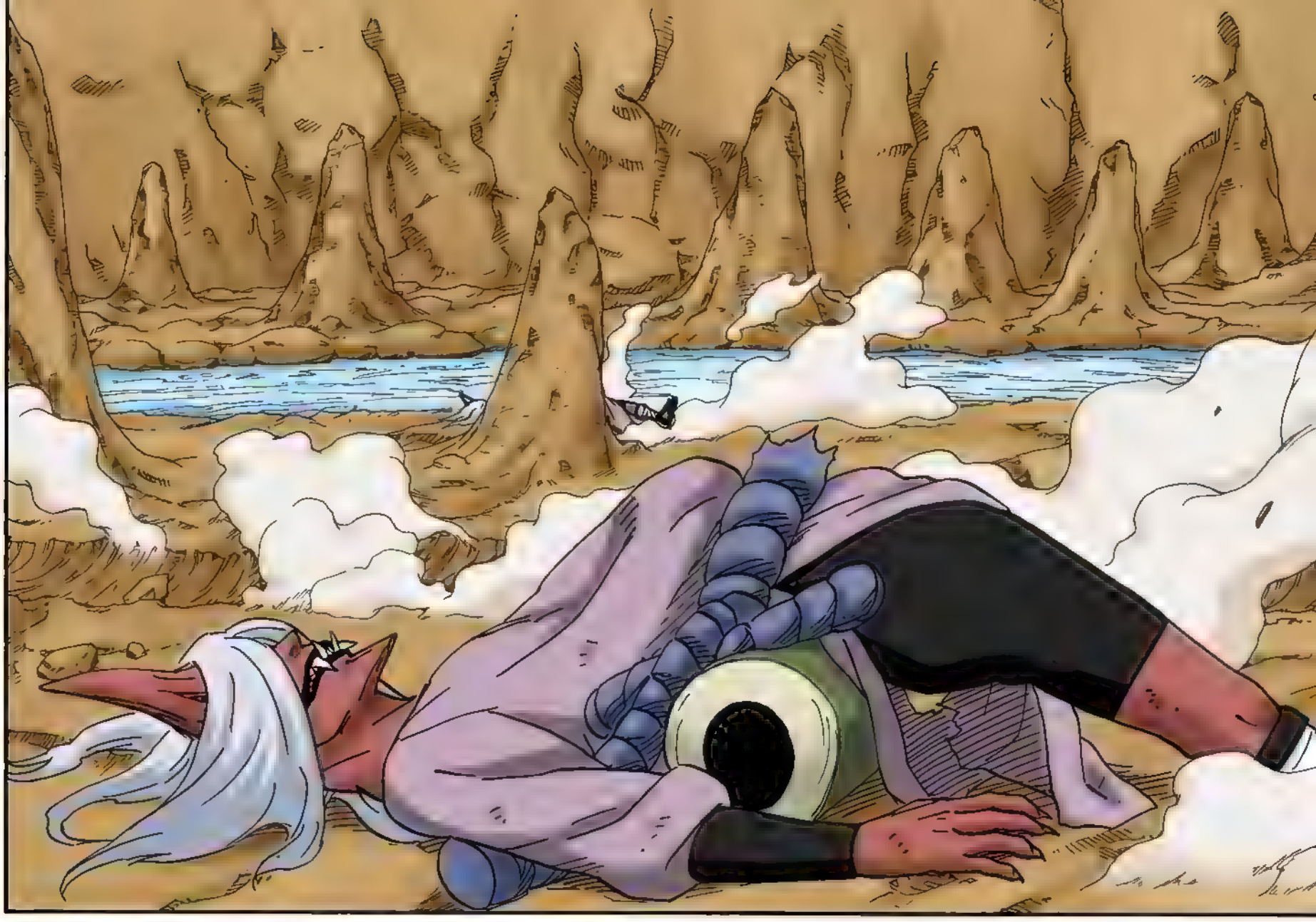
!


!!?
*@&%...
DROOL ?!
SAKON, WHAT'RE YOU DOING? ON THE RIGHT!!
!
SLIP
ARGH!
TMP
SLAAT
ZING
BWAFF
THOOM
牙狼牙!!
GAROGA! WOLF FANG-OVER-FANG!!

204: UKON'S PROWESS

ナンバー　ウコン　のうりょく
204：右近の能力


THOOM
SHREEDD
THUD
THUD



GAROGA: WOLF FANG-OVER-FANG'S SPIN IS SO FAST THAT WE LOSE OUR FIELD OF VISION.

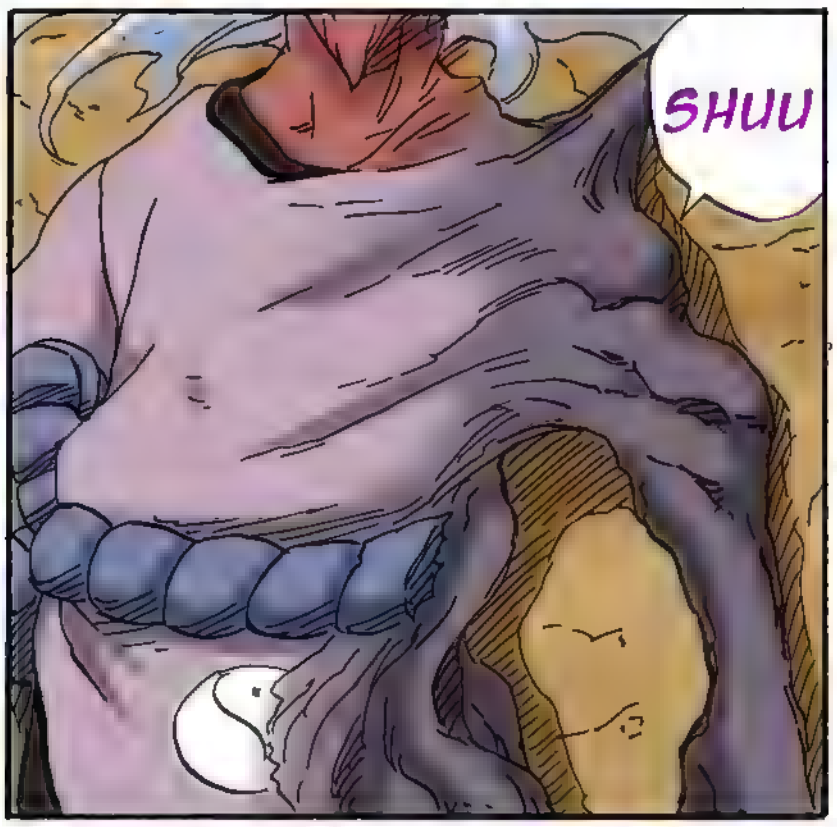
IT'S A VIOLENT ULTRA-ROTATION.

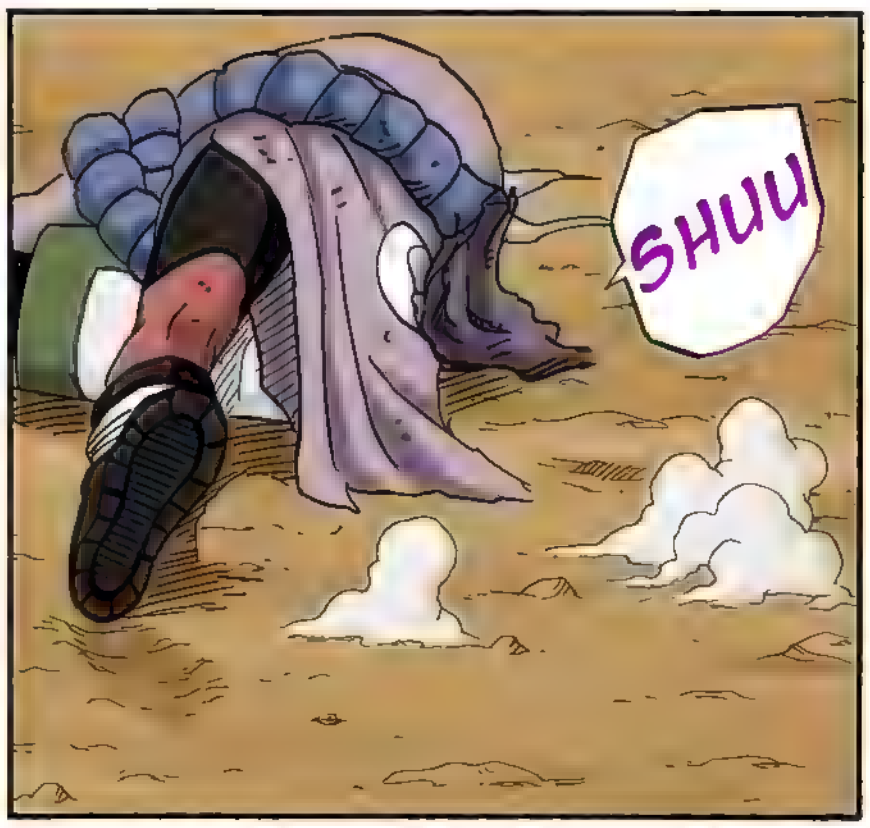
HA... HOW'S THAT?!

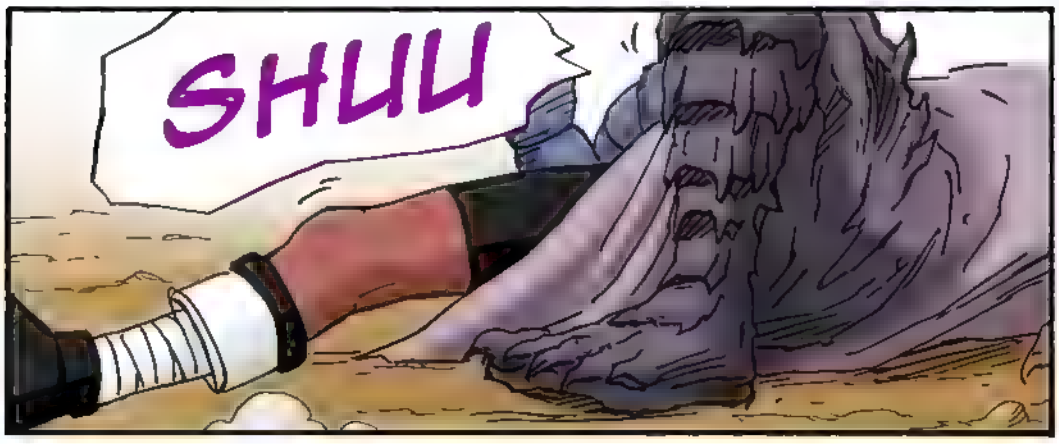
IF YOU TAKE IT FULL BLAST, YOU GET SMASHED.

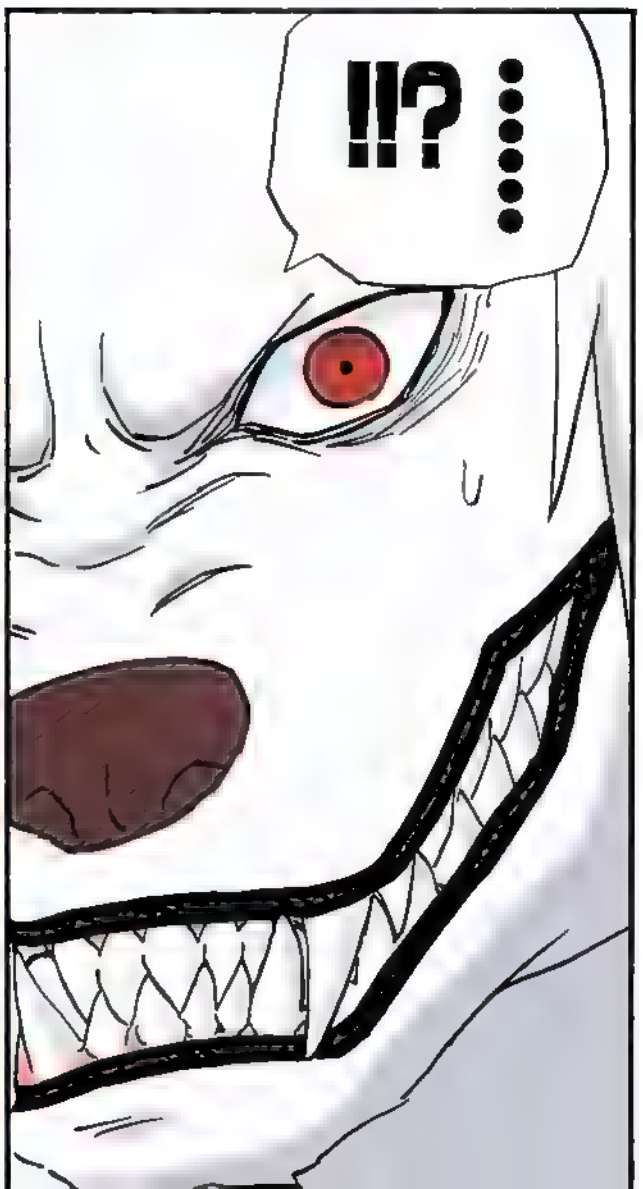
EVEN IF IT'S NOT A DIRECT HIT, YOU'RE STILL CUT DOWN...

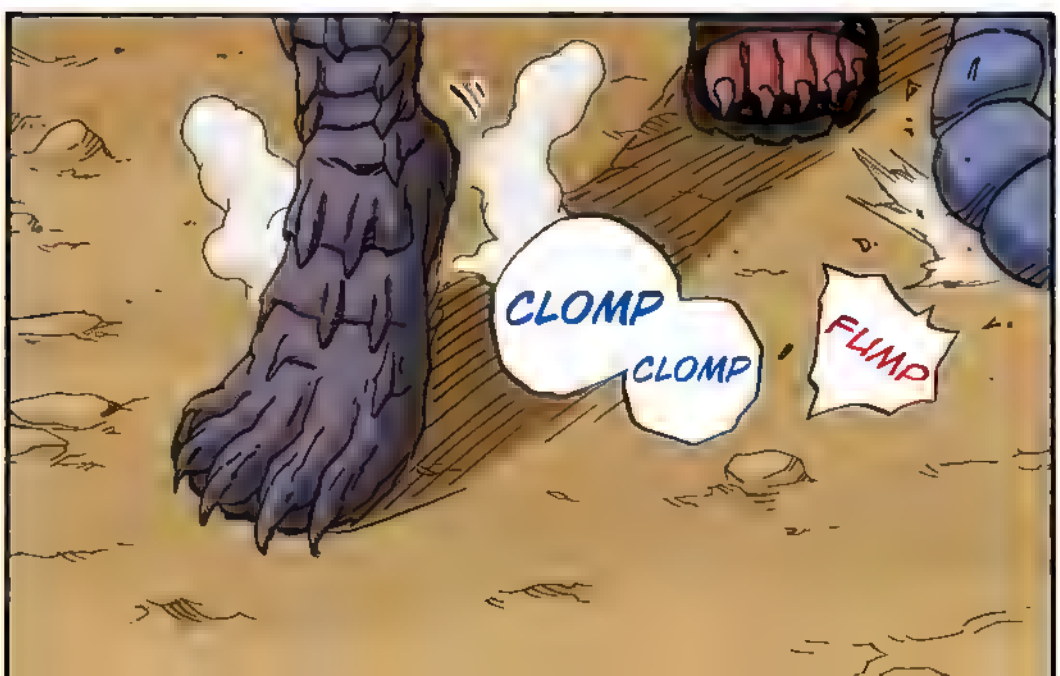
!?
!?


SHUU


SHUU


SHUU


!!?


CLOMP
CLOMP
FUMP

WHATEVER... WE WERE JUST THINK-ING ABOUT SPLITTING UP TO FINISH YOU OFF.

CLOMP

SKF

DRIP

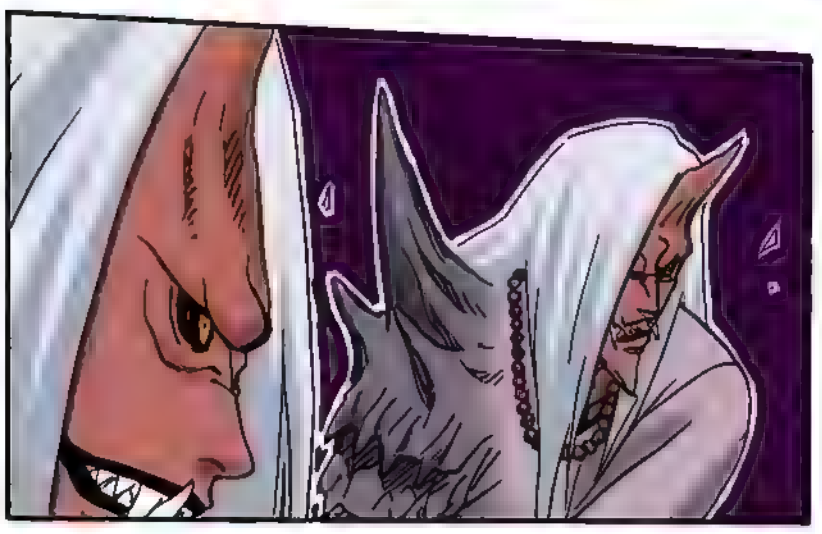
DRIP

IT'S TRUE... IF WE WERE HIT BY YOUR ATTACK WITH ONLY ONE BODY, YOU MIGHT'VE HAD US...

THEY SPLIT INTO TWO...?!

WHAT ?!

NOW THE REAL FIGHT BEGINS.



YEAH... I KNOW AKAMARU... WE CAN ONLY USE GAROGA ONCE MORE...

WOOF!

UH-OH ...!!

CRUNCH

THIS HAS TO END IT!!

WHREE

TAK

牙狼牙!! GAROGA! WOLF FANG-OVER-FANG!!

FSSH

WHIRRRRRR

FSSH

SHH

ZOOM

SHH

ZOOM

I TOLD YOU, WE'RE NOT FOLLOW-ING YOU WITH OUR EYES!

SWIP

NO USE HIDING!!

ZAP

AHH

WE'RE FOLLOWING OUR NOSES...

AND ATTACKING BY TRACKING YOUR SCENT EVER SINCE WE MARKED YOU.

SNIK

SNIK

ボルルル

WHIRRR

DAM

DAM

口寄せ…

くちよ

SUMMON...

THOOOM

羅生門!!!

ラショウモン

RASHOMON!!!

!!?

WHAM

!!

LORD OROCHI-MARU'S RASHOMON FALTERED ...

QUITE POWER-FUL...

スッ SHF

.....

WHOMP

TAK

HOW-EVER... HEH HEH...

TAK

THIS IS THE END!!
FWUMP
AKAMARU, YOU...TOOK THE BLOW FOR ME...
THUD
AKA-MARU!!
WHAM
!!
GLARE
WHERE'S THE OTHER ONE?!
!?
UGH... NGH...
TAK
NO!
ARGH! HE DID IT AGAIN ...!!
!!
UNH. GAAAH... MY EYES...

SHUU

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE?

YOU... UKON! YOU USED ME AS A SHIELD?!

ARGH...! IT BURNS... IT'S LIKE ACID IN MY EYES...

I'LL HANDLE IT FROM HERE.

RINSE YOUR EYES IN THE RIVER.

TSK...

TAK

.....

HHE

SHUP

!?

FWIP

GRAB

ZYUU

ACK

SHUU

AGH ...

YOU NEED MORE THAN JUST A GOOD NOSE AND CLAWS TO DEFEAT ME.

YOU CAN'T OVER-POWER ME!

THAT'S MY SKILL... ASSASSI-NATION SPECIALIST.

UGH...

THE KEIRAKUKEI IS ALSO INVOLVED WITH SYSTEMS THAT CONTROL THE FUNCTIONING OF THE ORGANS.

IT'S RELATED TO THE CELLS THEMSELVES...

BUT TO GO INTO A LITTLE MORE DETAIL...

YOU KNOW THAT THE KEIRAKUKEI THROUGH WHICH CHAKRA FLOWS...

...IS ENTWINED DEEPLY WITH EACH INTERNAL ORGAN, DON'T YOU?

...I CAN DISSOLVE AND REFORM THOSE CELLS AND PROTEINS AT WILL USING CHAKRA.

IN SECOND STATE...

IT'S INTRICATE, COMPLI-CATED...

...AND EVEN AFFECTS THE PROTEIN OF WHICH THE CELLS ARE MADE.

NOW, YOU AND I ARE IN A MERGED STATE...

WE'RE SHARING A BODY.

SHARING ?!

TO PUT IT SIMPLY, I BREAK MY BODY INTO PIECES AND ENTER AN ENEMY'S BODY.

THEN I CAN RESTORE MY BODY AND COME OUT.

THEN, THERE'S THE CRUEL WAY OF KILLING YOU.

I'LL SCRAPE AWAY THE PARTS OF OUR BODY MADE OF YOUR CELLS, THE PARTS MINE HAVEN'T ENTERED.

MY CELLS CAN SWIM AROUND FREELY IN YOUR BODY AND GENER-ATE PARTS THAT ARE SOLELY YOURS...

HA HA... BUT DON'T WORRY. WE'RE NOT COMPLETELY ASSIMILATED.

!?

SHUP

AND THEN...

CHAK-

ZING

HE'D SACRIFICE HIMSELF ...?!

IT CAN'T BE!!

UGH... URK...

WHIRL

HMPH... WHAT IF I...DO THIS?

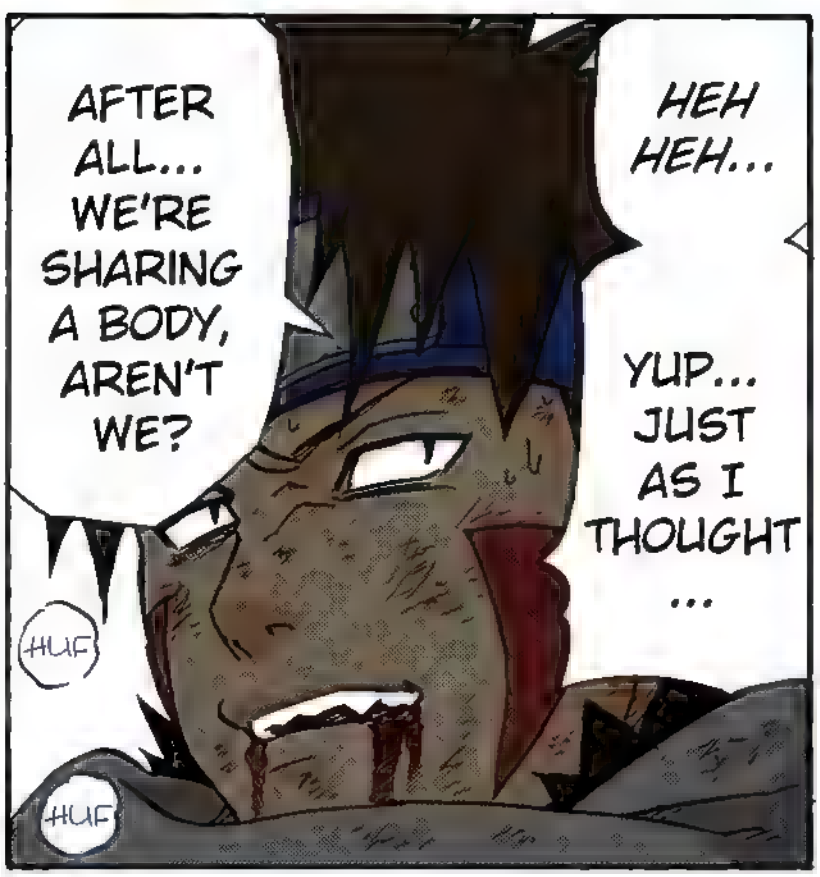
DIE WITH ME...

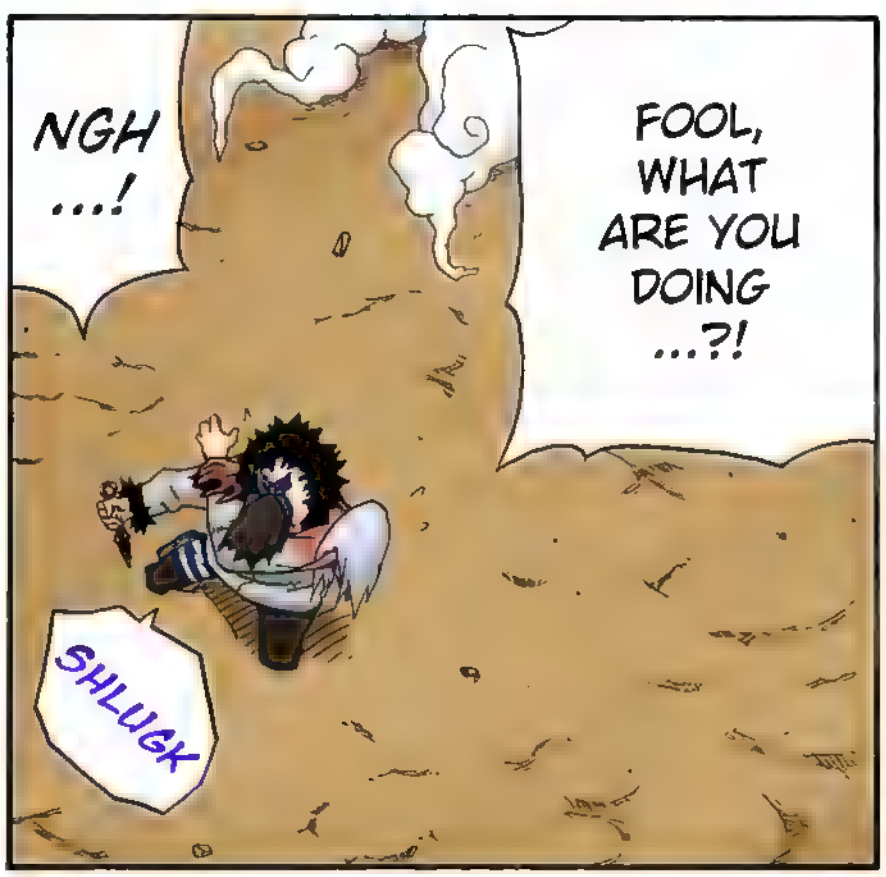
205: KIBA'S DECISION!!

ナンバー 205：キバの決意(けつい)!!

WHIRL
SPLEK!

AAUGH ...!!
UGH!!


AFTER ALL... WE'RE SHARING A BODY, AREN'T WE?
HEH HEH...
YUP... JUST AS I THOUGHT ...
HUF
HUF


NGH ...!
FOOL, WHAT ARE YOU DOING ...?!
SHLUGK

HEH... HURTS DOESN'T IT?

NO ONE'S EVER DONE THIS...

...MY JUTSU'S GREATEST MERIT IS THAT I GET INSIDE MY OPPONENT'S BODY AND CAN'T BE ATTACKED.

ARE YOU CRAZY ...?!

!!

GRIP

SHF

THEN LET'S PUT US OUT OF OUR MISERY!

!!!

AAA

SPLAT

SHUP

ZYUU

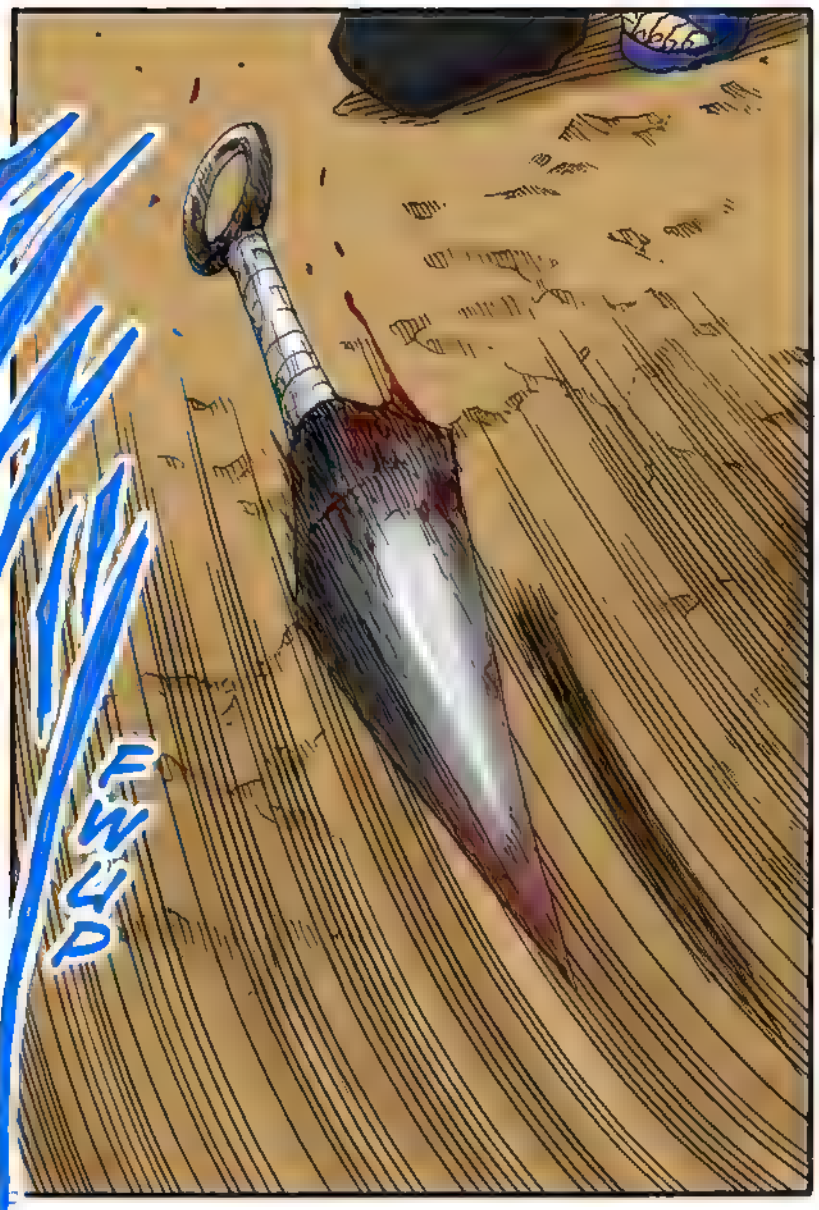
THUD

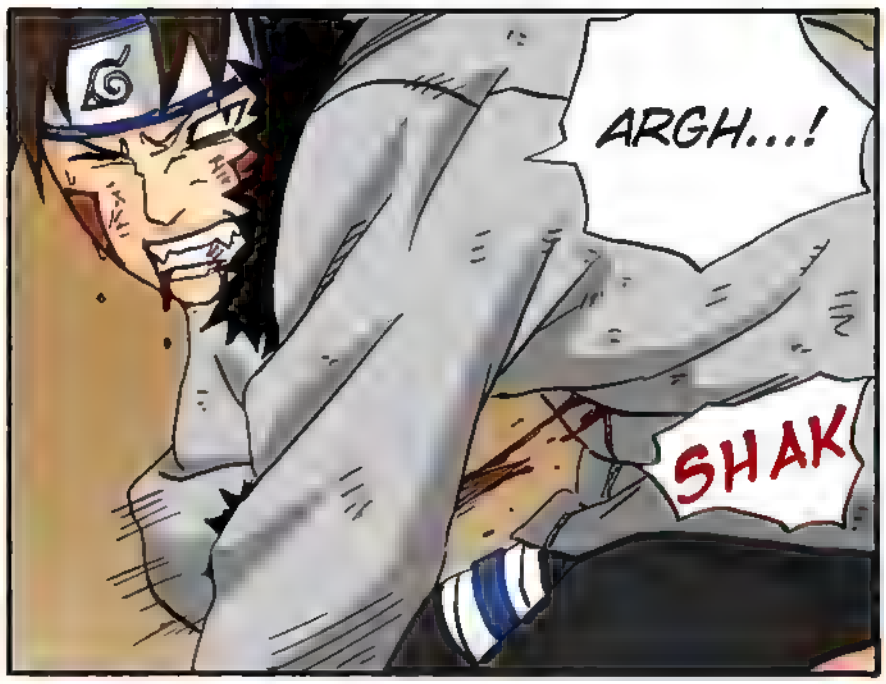
I'M LOSING BLOOD...

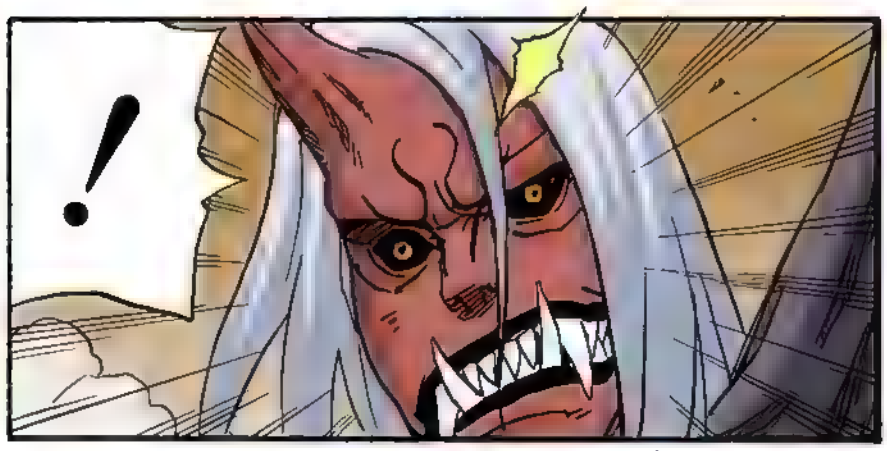
GLUG

GLUG

UGH...!


DUFF


ARGH...!
SHAK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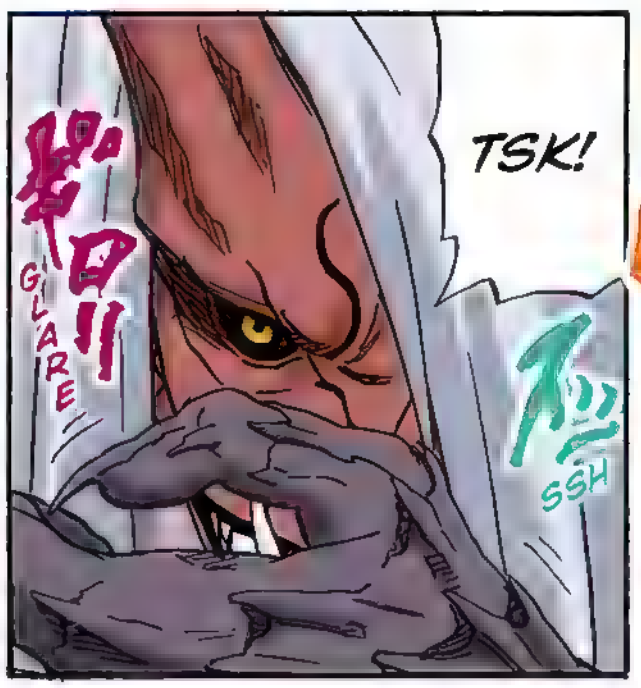
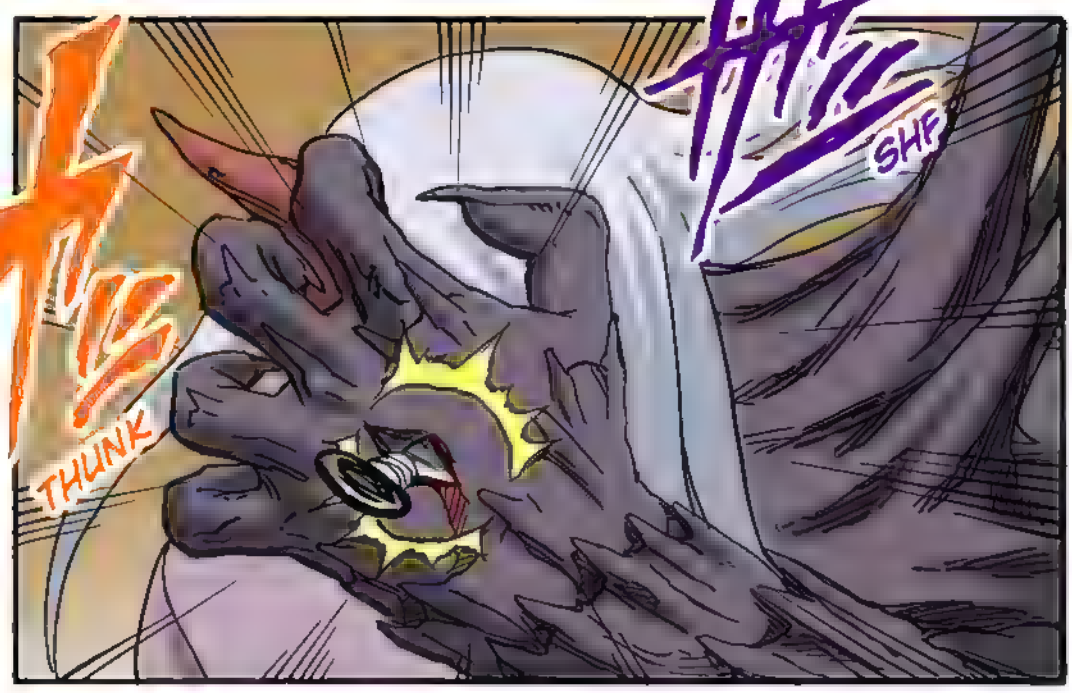
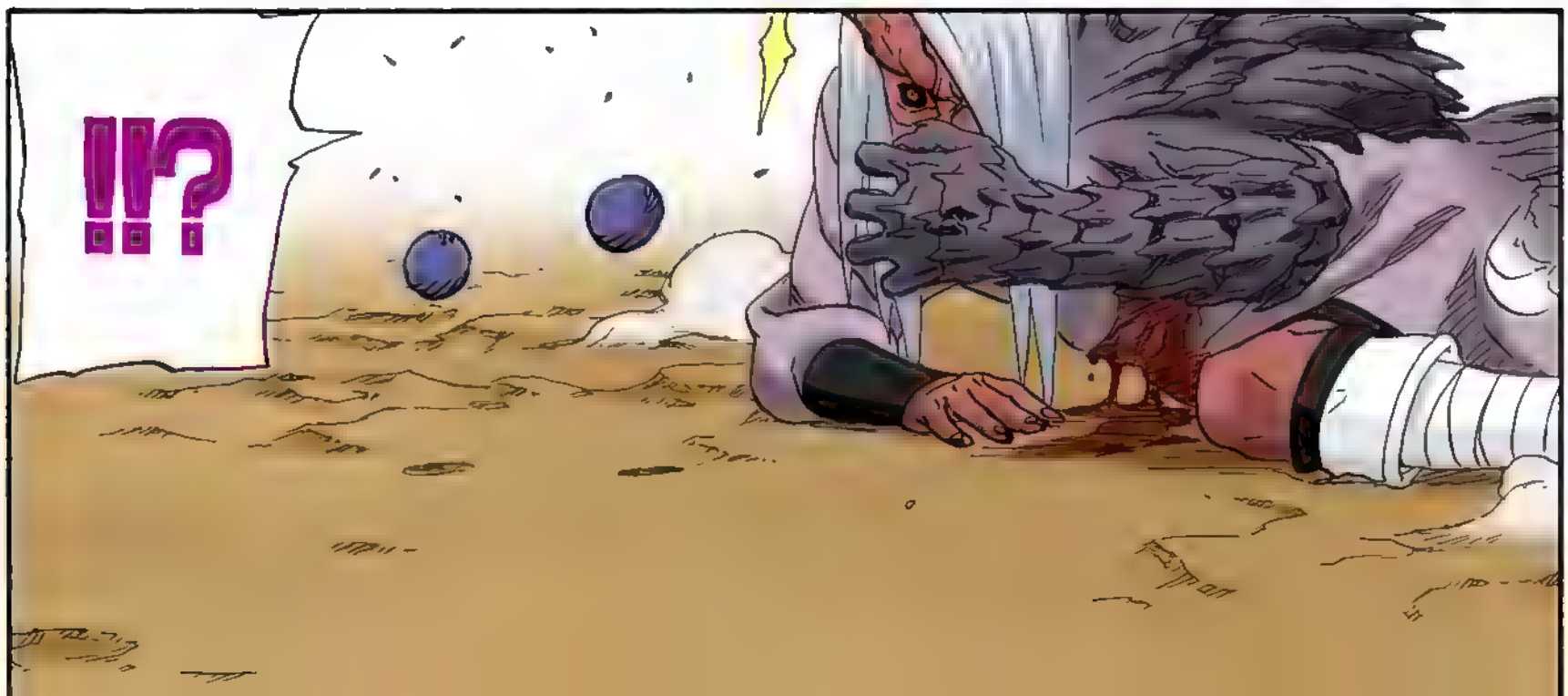

GLARE
TSK!
SSH


THUNK
SHP


!!?

BOOF

A SMOKE BOMB?!

UGH!

!

BWAA

!

SHUP

NO... WHERE DID HE GO...?

...THAT'S THE RIGHT DECISION, BUT...

HE'S EVEN MORE HEARTLESS THEN I... HA HA...

HMPH... HE ABANDONED HIS MUTT AND ESCAPED.

TMP TMP

PUFF

OH, NO...!

!?

FSSSHH

TAK

CLAM

HUF

HUF

HUF

GOOD... HE'S STILL BREATHING.

UNGH...!

THANK GOOD-NESS...

.....

THANKS TO YOU, WE SLOWED 'EM DOWN PRETTY GOOD... EVEN WOUNDED THEM...

HUF

HUF

AKAMARU... YOU CAME THROUGH...

BA DUMP

...IT'S MY TURN TO PROTECT YOU...

THAT'S ENOUGH... YOU'VE DONE ENOUGH...

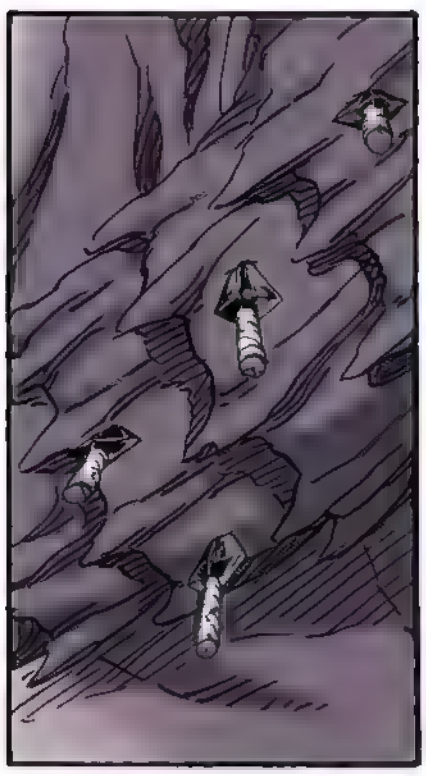
ポタ

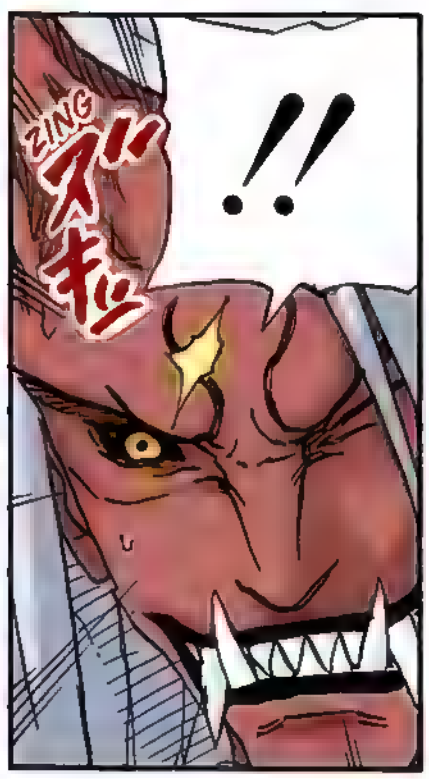
PLIP

ポタ

THEY SET A TRAP...

SNEAKY RATS...





THEY'RE DEAD!!

!

CLOMP

SPLOSH

.....

GRRR

ピク ピク

HEY! SAKON! WHERE ARE YOU?!

SAKON!!

!!

YOUR VOICE IS SO LOUD IT EVEN HURTS MY EYES...

WHAT'RE YOU MAKING SUCH A FUSS ABOUT?

I'LL FINISH THEM OFF WHEN I AWAKEN!

GOT THAT? TAKE THEM ALIVE, SAKON!!

SHUU

ズズズ…

THEY STILL MUST DIE...

BUT IT'S TIME FOR MY REST...

CLOMP

CLOMP

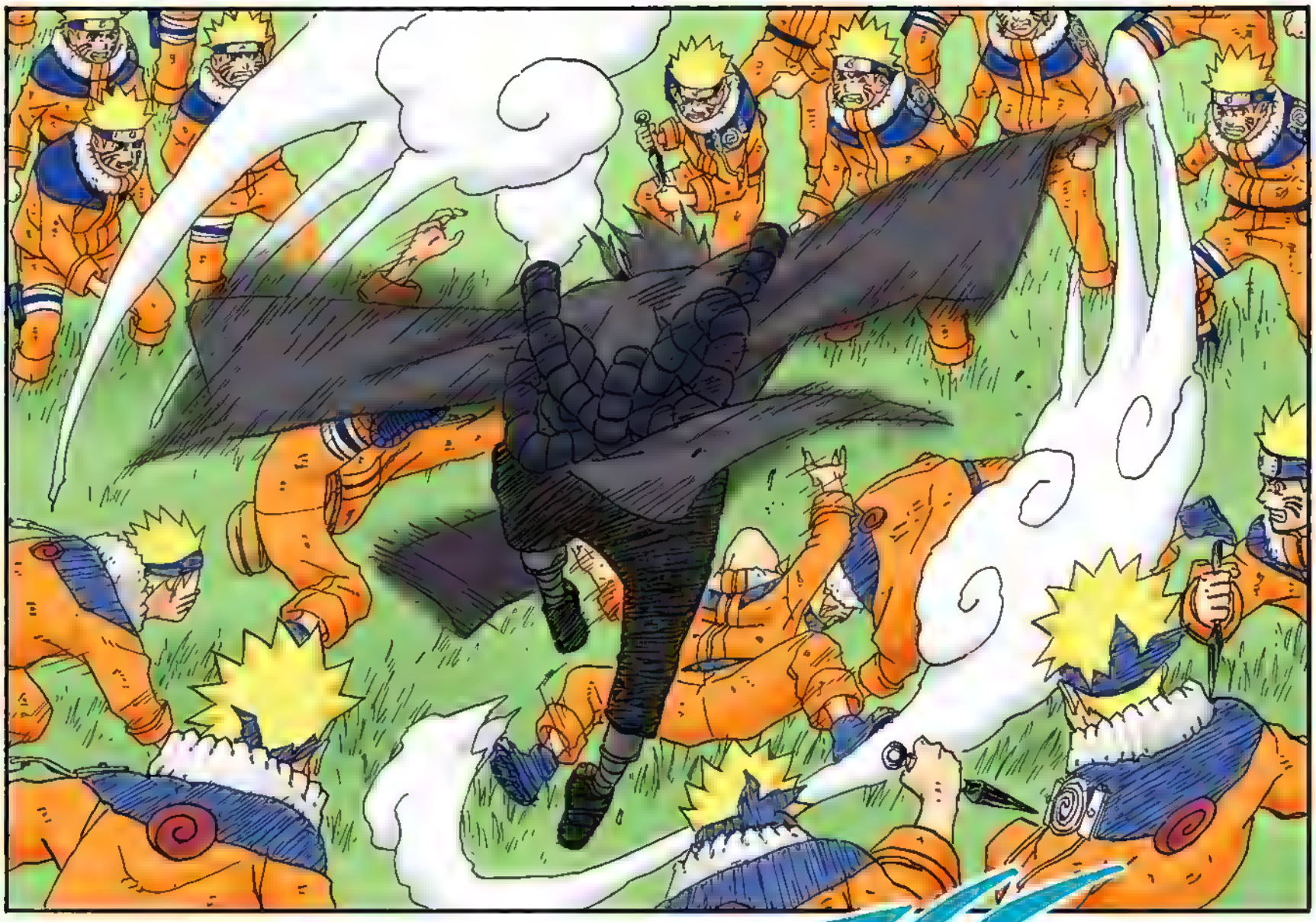
KEEP THEM ALIVE!!

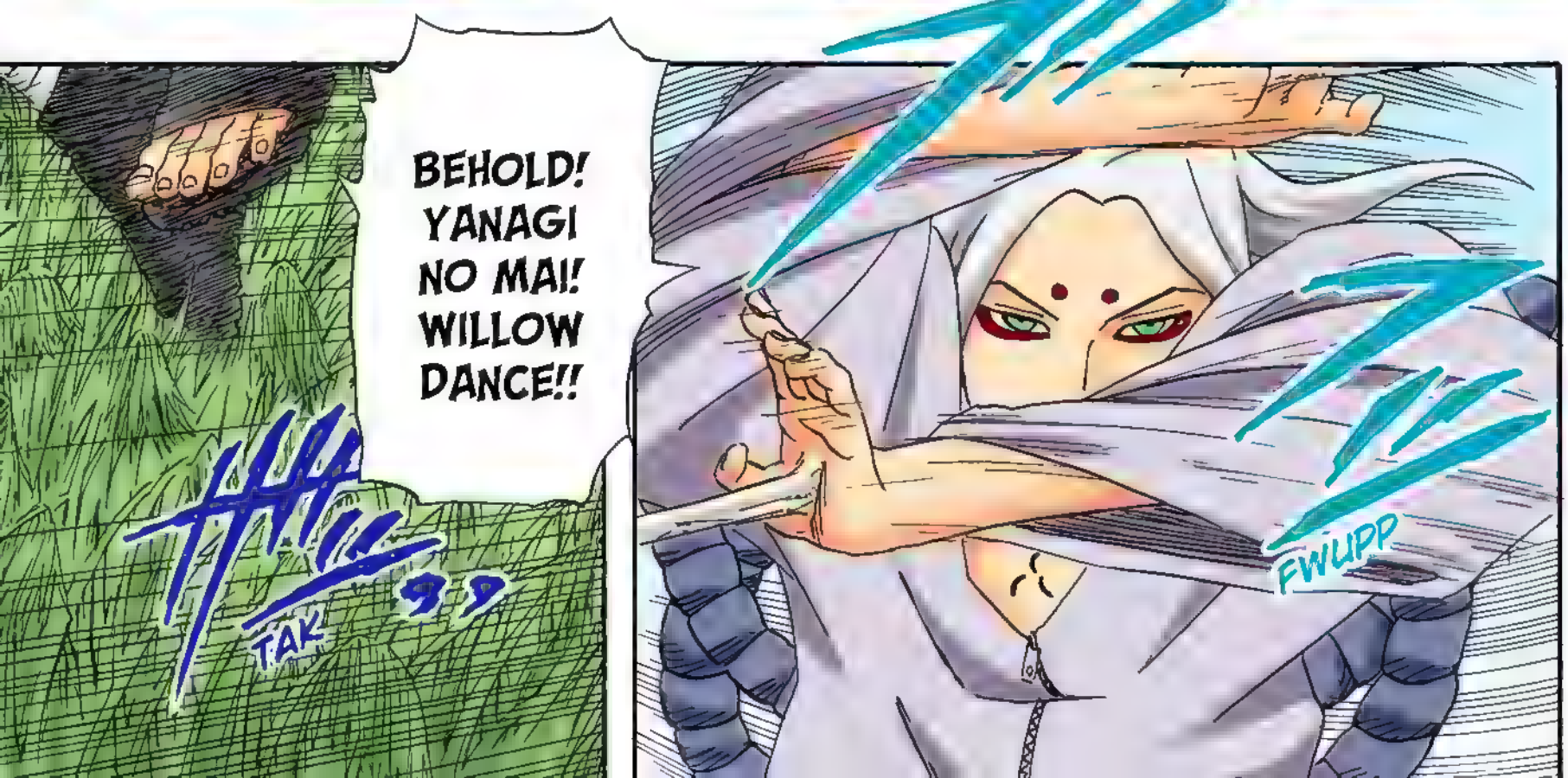
GRRR

WE KILL THEM TOGETHER.

YEAH, I GOT IT... BUT...

BOOF



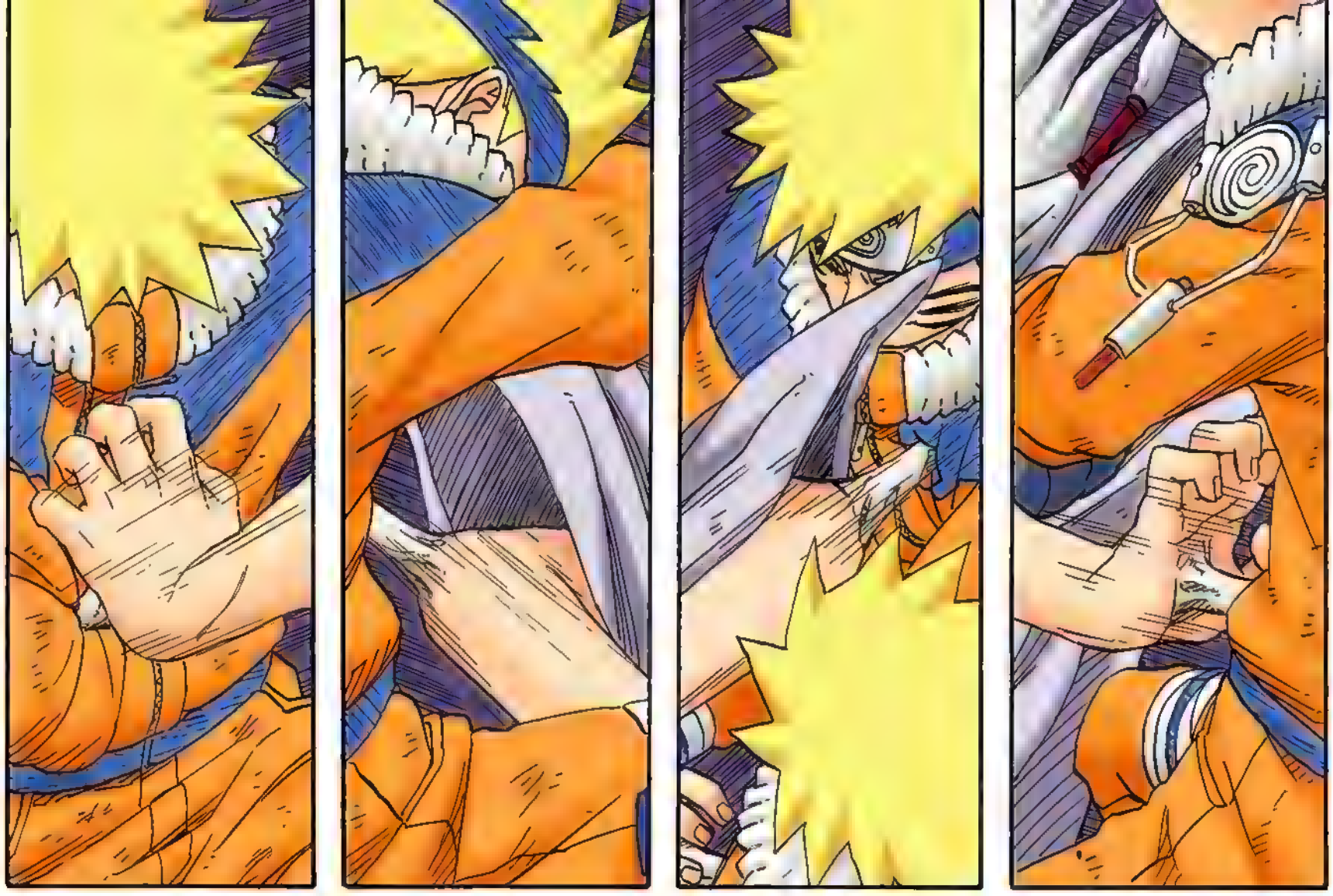

BEHOLD! YANAGI NO MAI! WILLOW DANCE!!
TAK
FWUPP

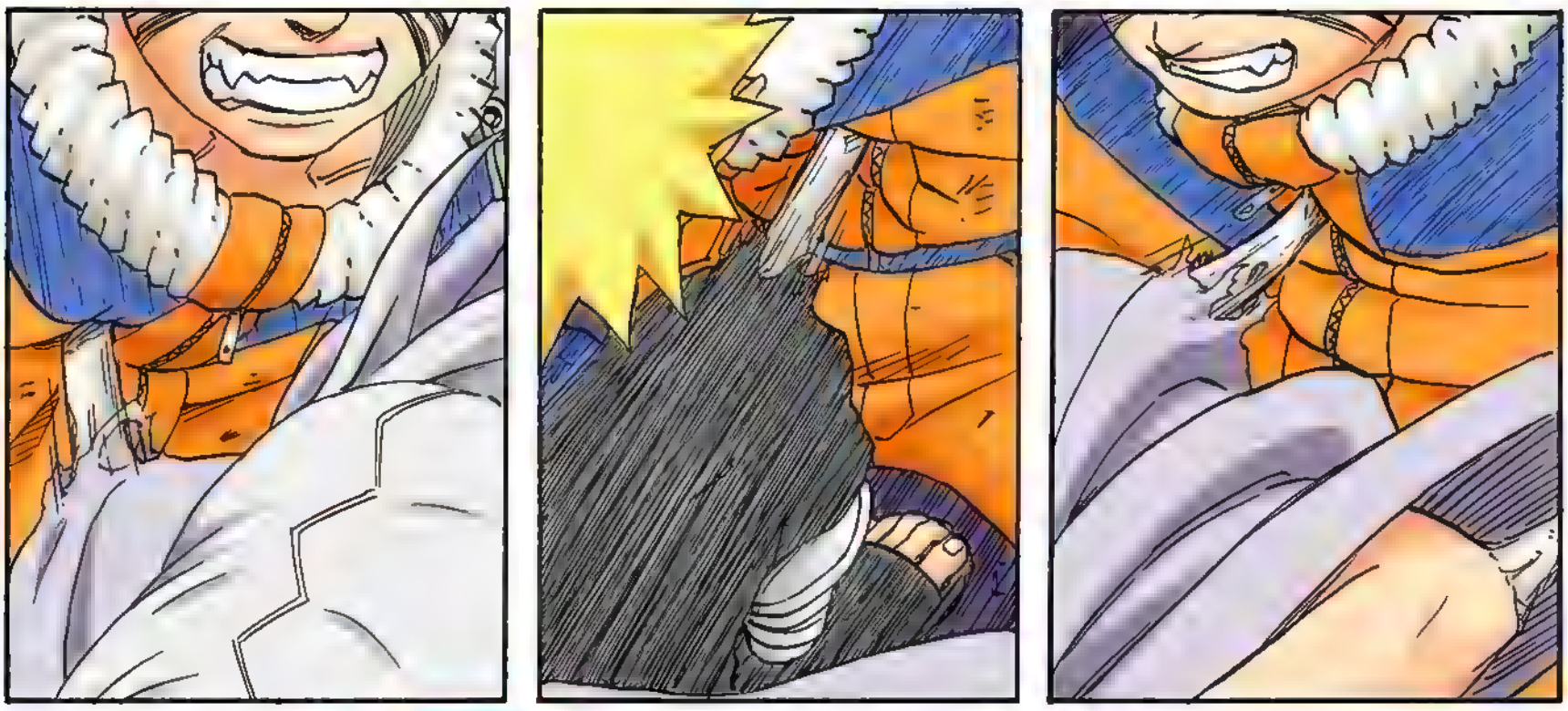
AAUGH!
POP
UGH!
AGH!
ZOOM
TAK
TAK

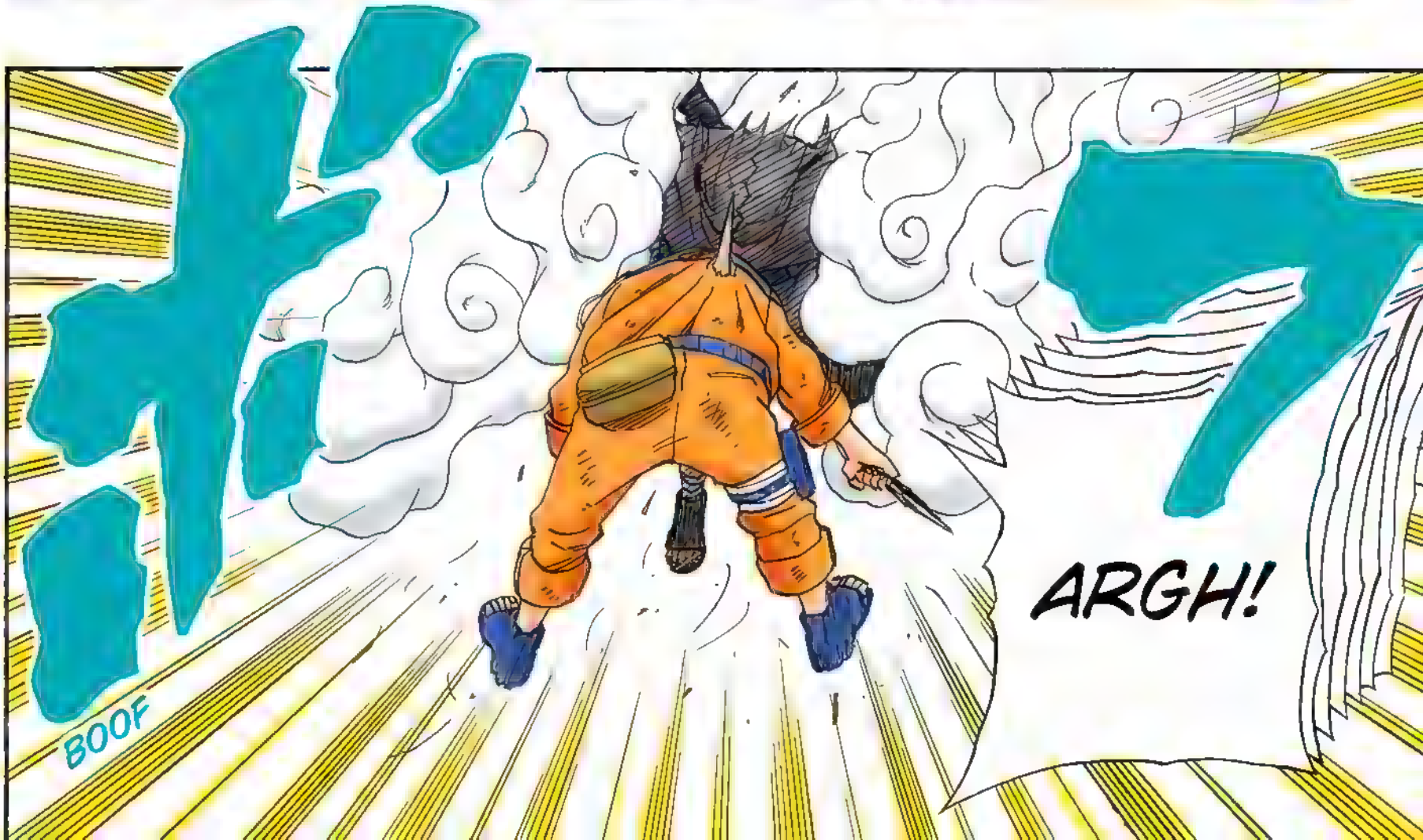
THAK
THAK

ボン
POP
ボン
POP

YAAAAAAH!!
BAM






BOOF
ARGH!

A BONE ...?!

ボン BOOF

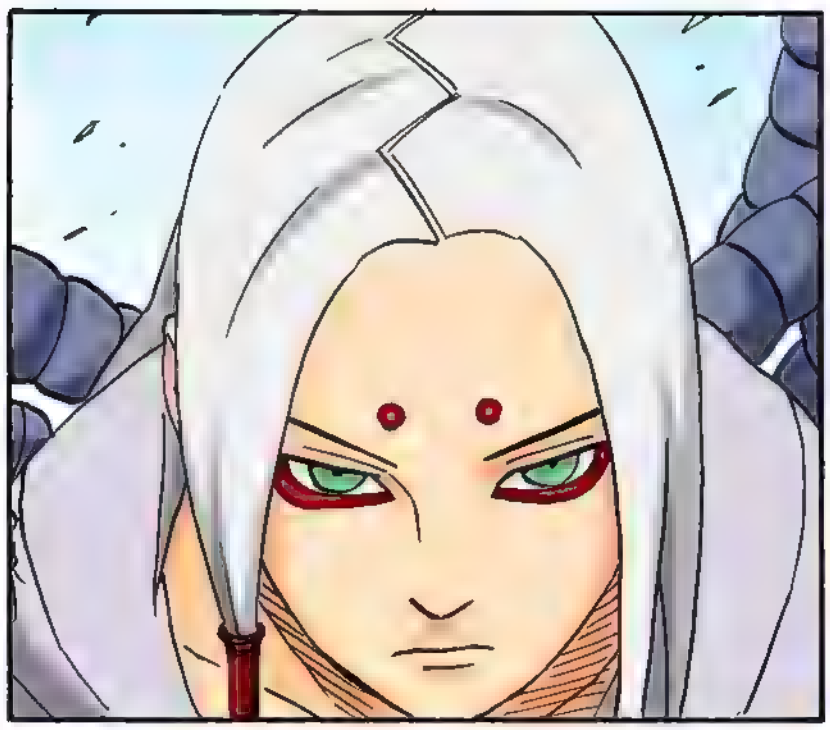
TAK

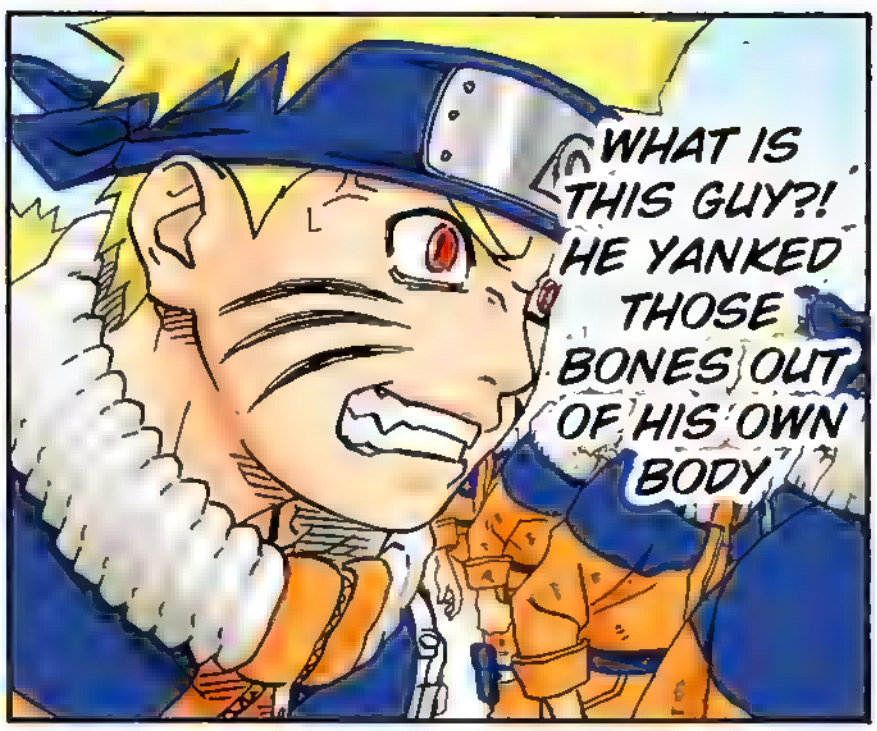
SHF

MY KEKKEI GENKAI.

THIS IS...

206: PREDICAMENT...!!




WHAT IS THIS GUY?! HE YANKED THOSE BONES OUT OF HIS OWN BODY

SHUP

SHUU

SHUP

SHUU

SKF

CRACK

SHF

!?

ZIID

RR XII

XII RIP

SHWIP

SHWIP

KRIK

コキコキ

KRAK

RRRID

SHF

ズズ

SHUU

!?

NO WAY... HE'S...

SSSHH

SHUUU

WON'T BE LONG NOW...

!?

SHU

SHUK

FWIP

ズズ…

THIP

ズズ…

THIP

SHFF

CLINK

HIS WOUNDS HEALED...

A BONE FOR A SWORD ...?

SHUP

!?

CHING

CHING

CHING

IT'S MAXIMUM DENSITY, HARD AS STEEL.

THIS IS NO ORDINARY BONE...

DON'T EVEN THINK THAT YOU UNDERSTAND THAT POWER.

I HAVE FIVE DANCES.

I'M GONNA SMASH IT...

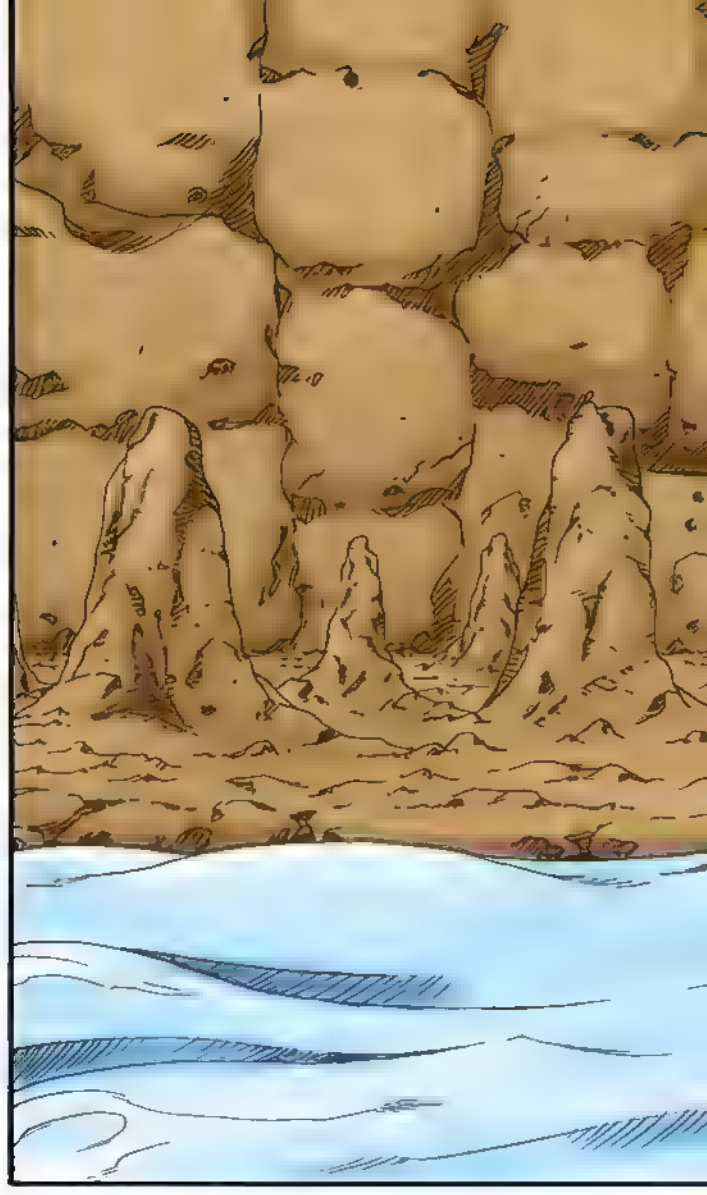
...YEAH, SO?

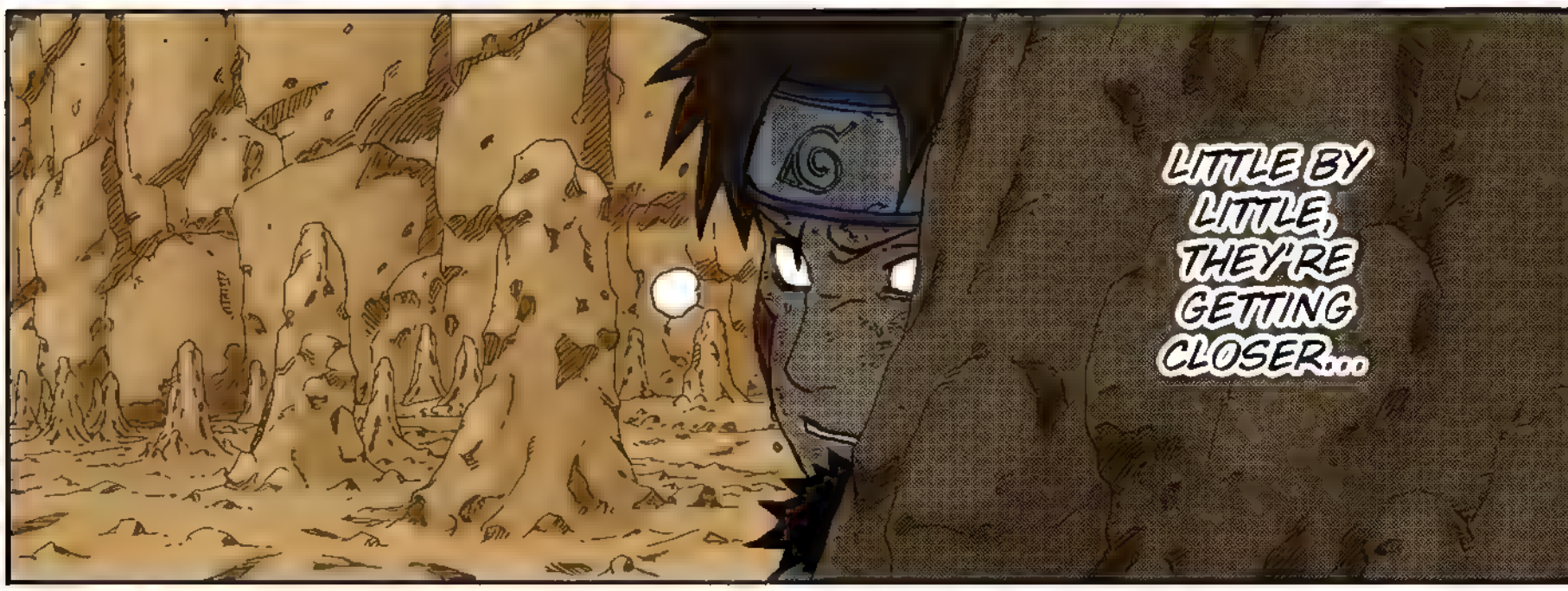
SSSHH

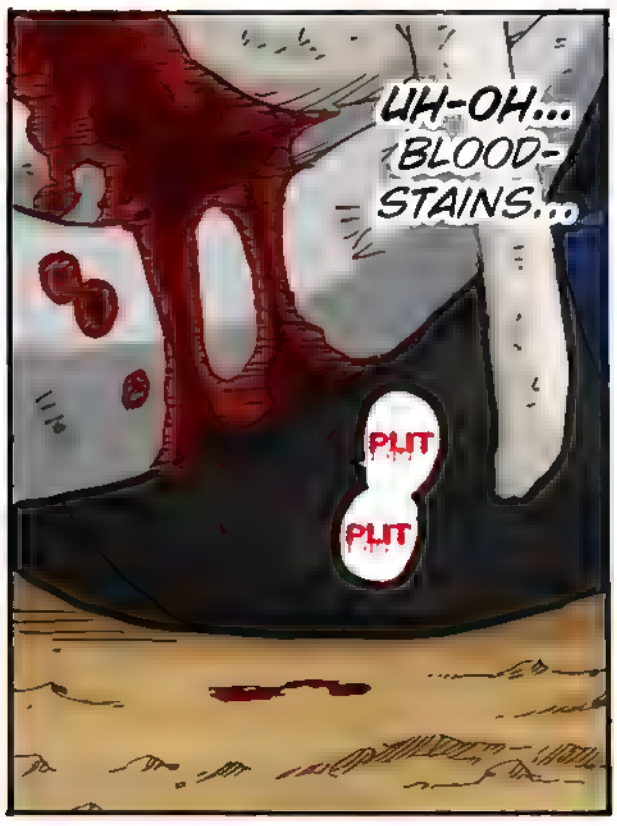
I'LL SHOW YOU TSUBAKI NO MAI! CAMELLIA DANCE!!

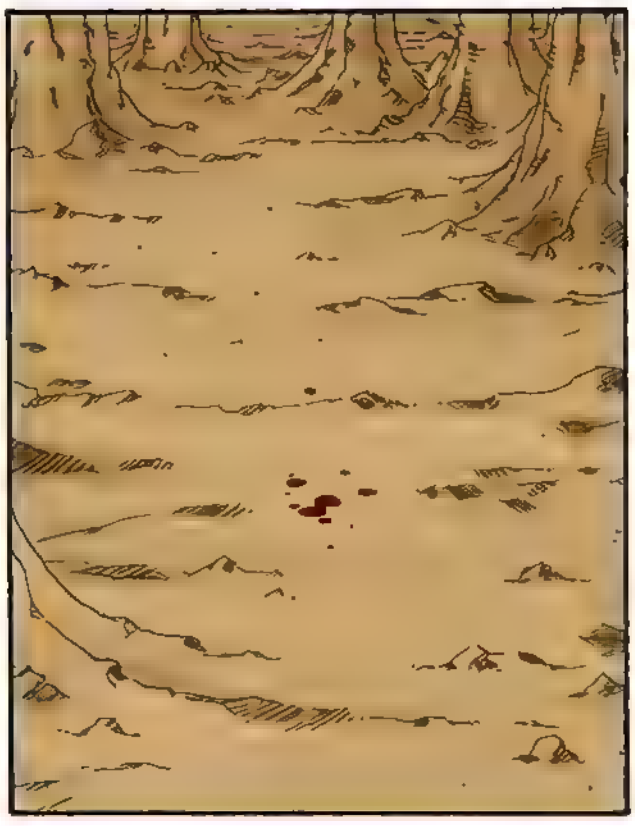
PARTI-CULARLY, THE NEXT ONE...

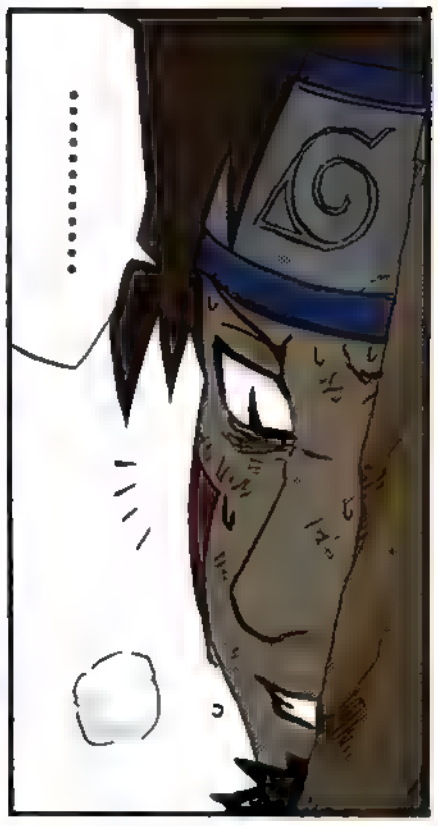
I'M GONNA CRUSH YOU!!




LITTLE BY LITTLE, THEY'RE GETTING CLOSER...


UH-OH... BLOOD-STAINS...
PLIT
PLIT




.....

I MIGHT'VE PUSHED IT A LITTLE TOO MUCH... HEH HEH...

OW...

SHAAA

RATS...I RESCUED AKAMARU, BUT...

SNIF SNIF

!?

SIGH ...

WHY...? WHY ARE THEY COMING THIS WAY...?!

THAT SMELL... WHAT'S GOING ON?!

ZING

!!

UGH...

ANYWAY, I GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE...

SKF

MAN...IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE...

HUF

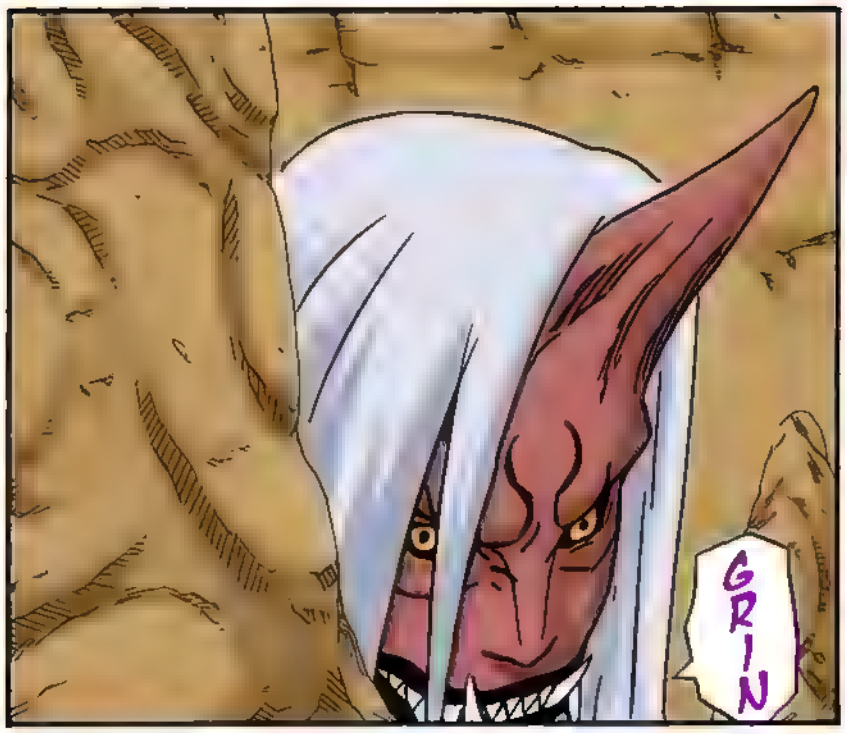
HUF

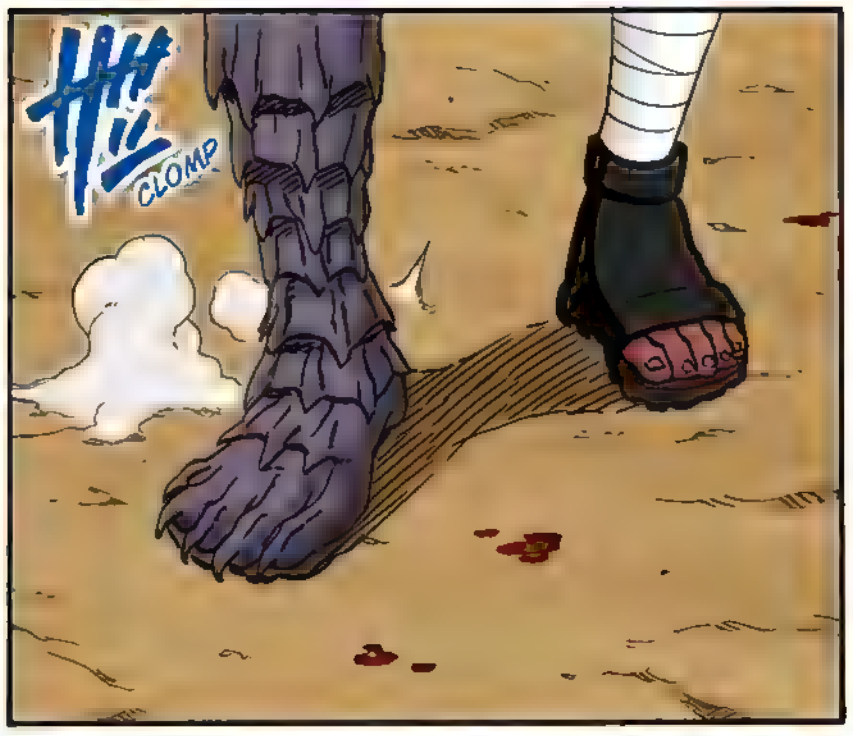
...NO GOOD... THE PAIN AND BLOOD LOSS ARE MAKING ME DIZZY. MY BODY... I CAN'T MOVE...

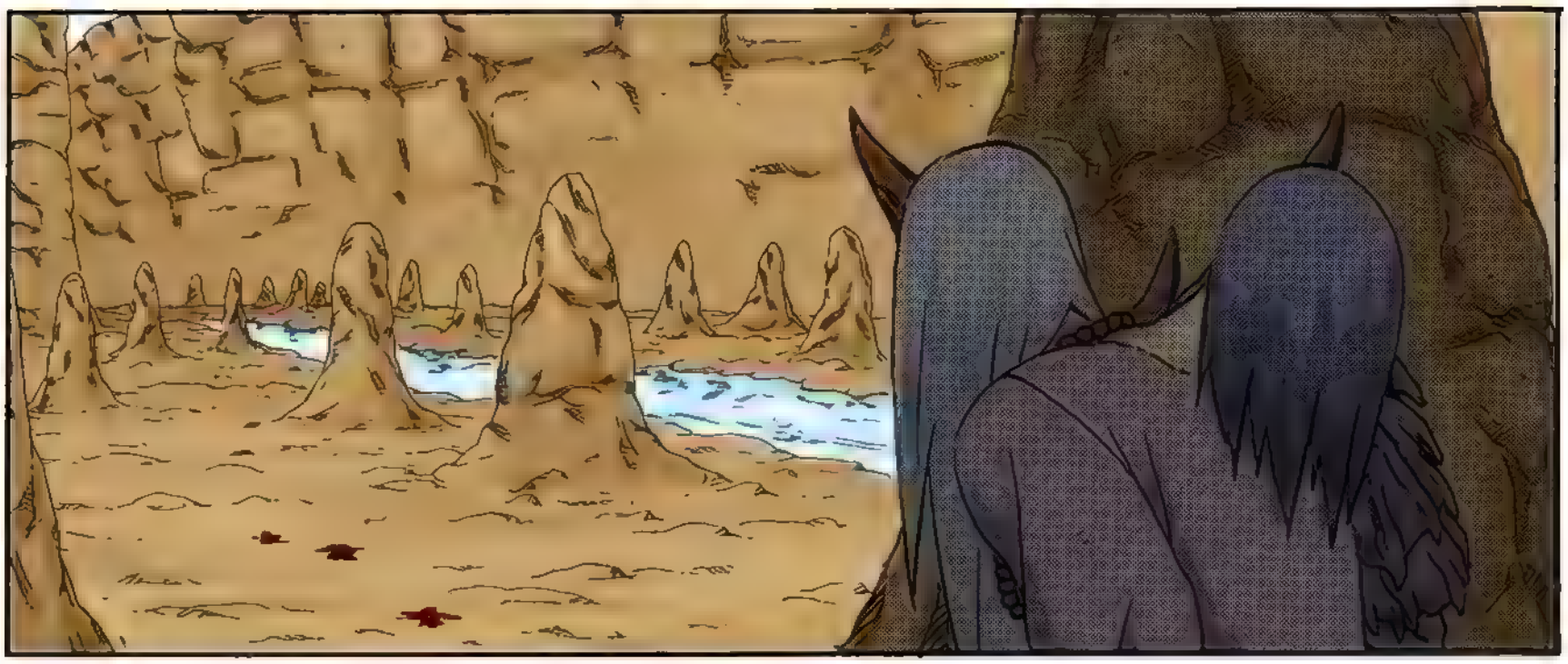
.....

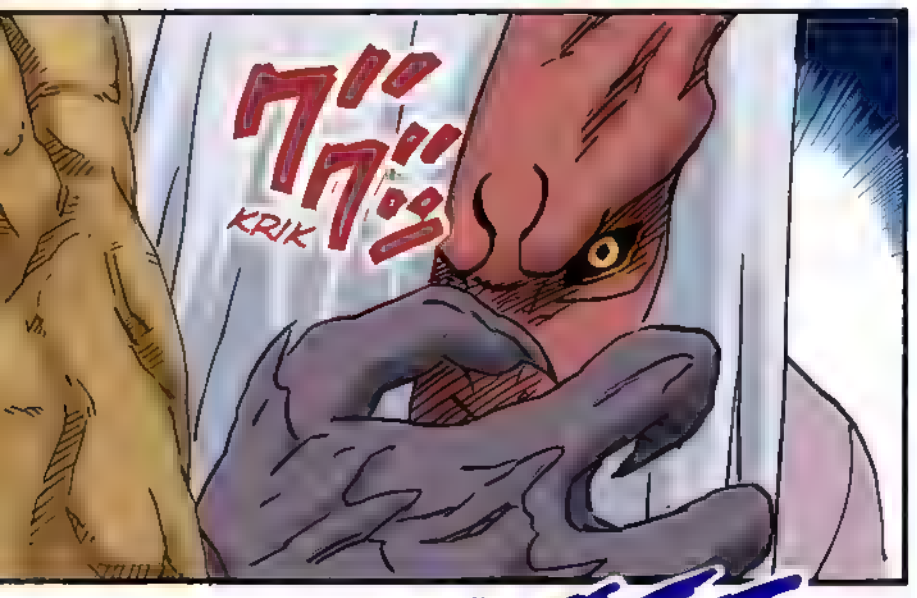
FWUMP

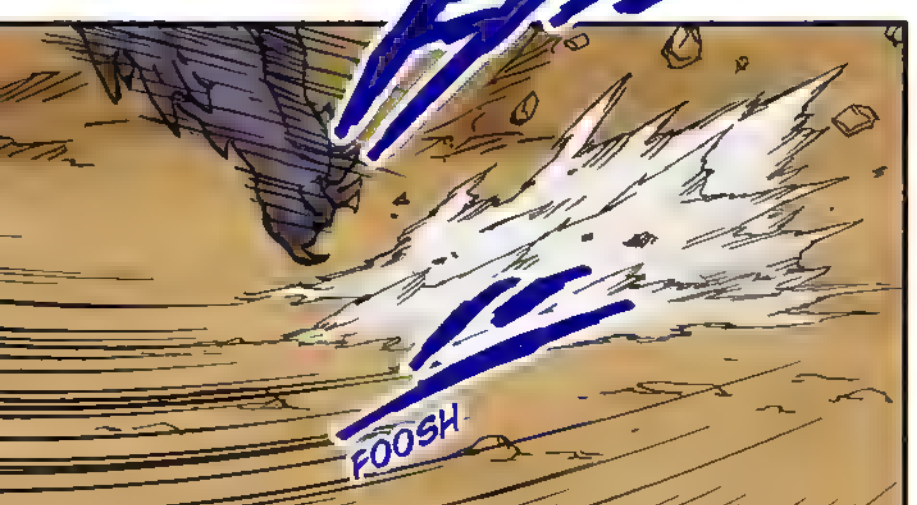
...AKAMARU...


GRIN


CLOMP




KRIK


FOOSH

!!

.....

TSK...

TOK

...MUST'VE GOT AWAY DOWN THE RIVER...

SNEAKY RATS!!

BOOM

TMP

HUF

HUF

SO WELL THAT I HAD NO CHANCE TO USE JUTSU...

YOU MUST'VE PRACTICED HARD, HUH?

NOT BAD.

YOU TIMED THOSE ATTACKS WELL...

WELL... GOT YOU CORNERED, PUNK!

THAT'S A PRETTY COMPLICATED MELODY.

.....

HMM... YOU FIGURED OUT THAT I CONTROL THEM WITH MY FLUTE.

AND THE DIFFICULTY OF THE MELODY... NOT BAD, FOR A LITTLE PUNK.

TRUE...

ART ISN'T REALLY MY STRONG SUIT...

BUT... YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY UNDERSTAND THIS MUSIC COMPLETELY.

IF IT WERE JUST A MATTER OF ANALYTICAL ABILITY I'D BE FINE, BUT...

...THIS TIME, I MIGHT BE IN BIG TROUBLE... BECAUSE...

BUT... SINCE SHE CONTROLS THEM WITH HER FLUTE, THE MELODY MUST CONTAIN CERTAIN SOUND SEQUENCES THAT CONTROL EACH OF THEIR MOVEMENTS.

HEH HEH...

FINALE! NINTH PASSAGE ...!!

NO ONE SURVIVES THIS PIECE!

MAKYO NO RAN! DEMON REVOLU-TION!!

I STINK AT MUSIC!

♫♪

TWITCH

TWITCH

TWITCH

THE TUNE CHANGED ...?!

!!?

TAK-

SOME-THING'S COMING!!

THE WORLD OF KISHIMOTO MASASHI
PERSONAL HISTORY: A STORY TOO EMBARRASSING TO WRITE DOWN, PART 1

IT'S ABOUT TIME I ENDED WRITING MY PERSONAL HISTORY, BUT I'VE GOT NOTHING TO FILL OUT THIS BLANK PAGE WITH, SO I DECIDED TO CONTINUE WRITING A LITTLE A MORE. IT SEEMS THE MORE I WRITE, THE MORE I EMBARRASS MYSELF...BUT, I'M GOING TO WRITE AGAIN ANYWAY, AGAINST MY BETTER JUDGEMENT. FIRST OF ALL, THIS STORY IS SO POINTLESS AND SILLY THAT I'VE AVOIDED WRITING IT UNTIL NOW, AND I'M NOT REALLY GUNG-HO ON WRITING IT NOW EITHER. BUT, AGAINST...MY...BETTER...JUDGEMENT...

I THINK IT WAS WHEN I WAS IN THE FIRST GRADE. I WAS SO INTO THIS ONE SENTAI, SFX ACTION/ADVENTURE HERO SERIES. THE ONE I PLAYED MOST OFTEN AT THAT AGE WAS *TAIYO SENTAI SAN BARUKAN* (SOLAR SQUADRON SUN VULCAN). I USED TO PLAY SUN VULCAN FIGHTERS WITH MY FRIEND AND MY TWIN BROTHER A LOT. SUN VULCAN WAS A BIT DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHER SENTAI SERIES. WHILE MOST SENTAI SERIES HEROES WERE MADE UP OF A CELL OF FIVE, SUN VULCAN WAS BRAVE ENOUGH TO SAVE THE EARTH WITH A CELL OF THREE. THE CELL CONSISTED OF VULEAGLE, VULSHARK AND VULPANTHER.

I'VE NEVER LIVED BEING THE LEADER, EVER SINCE I WAS A KID. SO I DECIDED TO PLAY THE ROLES OF EITHER VULSHARK OR VULPANTHER, THE SECOND OR THIRD RANKED GUYS. BUT, BECAUSE VULSHARK'S POSE LOOKED LAME TO ME, EVEN AT THAT AGE, I DECIDED TO GO WITH VULPANTHER. ...ANYWAY... WELL...*UMM*...I REALLY GOT INTO THE VULPANTHER CHARACTER. OR, IT WAS MORE LIKE... I ALREADY WAS VULPANTHER. BASICALLY, I WAS INTOXICATED WITH VULPANTHER. HOW MUCH SO...? TO BE CONTINUED...

P.S. THE TRUTH SHALL BE REVEALED!

207: DEADLOCKED

SMASH

ZOOM

SOME-
THING'S
COMING!

SKRITCH
SKRITCH

SKRITCH
SKRITCH

SKRITCH
SKRITCH

SWEESH SWEESH

SWEESH SWEESH SWEESH SNAP SNAP

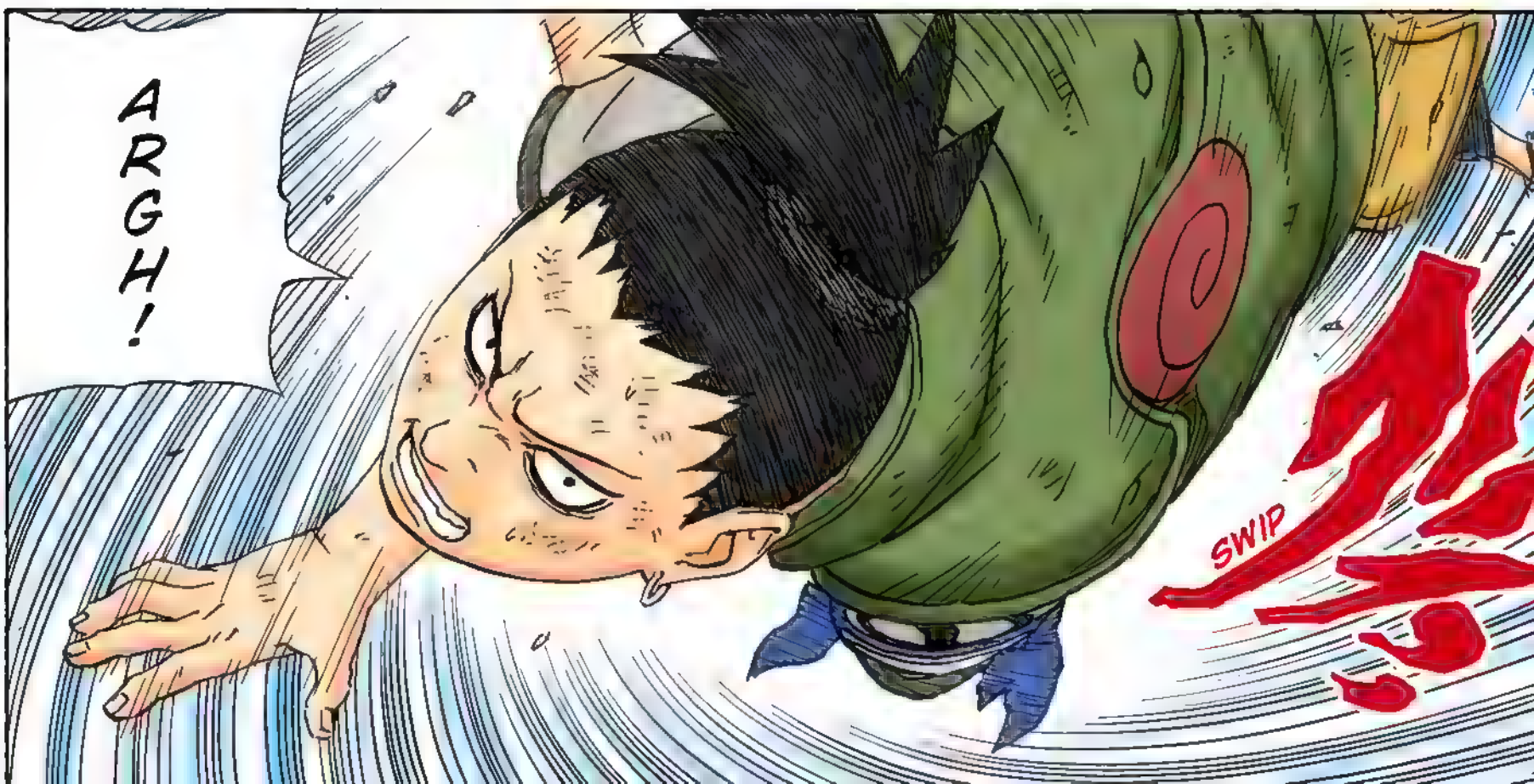
SPING SPING SPING SHWIP SHWIP

WHAT?!

!!

TAK

ZYUU


ARGH!
SWIP

SHU

UP

!!?

CHOMP

WHAAT ?!

SHWIP

!

TAK

FWIP

GUOOOH

TSK!!

CLINK

THEY'RE...

ZWIP

BOOF

TAP

HE BOLTED ONCE HE REALIZED THE ENORMOUS POWER OF THE SPIRITS...HE'S SMARTER THAN I THOUGHT...BUT...

EVEN USING MY TRUSTY LETTER BOMB AND SMOKE BOMB TOGETHER, I JUST BARELY MANAGED TO HIDE.

HUF

HUF

.....

HUF

WHEEZE

HUF

HUF

SHU

UP

!!?

CHOMP

THAT WHITE THING ...

IT BIT OFF MY PHYSICAL ENERGY...

...SEMI-SUBSTANCES. JUST CHAKRA WITH AN APPETITE.

FROM THE LOOKS OF WHERE MY SHURIKEN WENT IN, THEY MUST BE...

TWITCH

TWITCH

THESE ARE TROUBLE.

IF I KEEP TAKING ON HUNGRY CHAKRA LIKE THIS, I WON'T BE ABLE TO USE MY OWN CHAKRA ANYMORE...

SO, IN SEARCH OF STABILITY, THEY'RE STARVED FOR PHYSICAL ENERGY.

THEY'RE PROBABLY MAINLY COMPRISED OF CHAKRA MADE FROM SPIRITUAL ENERGY.

THE QUICKEST WAY IS TO SILENCE THAT FLUTE THOUGH.

BUT, UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO GET NEAR HER.

I HAVE TO IGNORE THE WHITE THINGS AND AIM FOR THE MAIN BODIES.

A SHINOBI THAT MAKES SPECIAL CHAKRA LIKE ME... NO DOUBT IT'S A SECRET TECHNIQUE.

BUT, IT'LL BE DIFFICULT TO PULL OFF WHILE BEING ATTACKED BY EACH OF THEM INDIVIDUALLY...

IF I MISS EVEN ONE, I'LL GET ATTACKED FULL BLAST AND IT'S GAME OVER.

ANOTHER WAY IS TO CAPTURE THE BODIES OF THOSE THREE, ALL AT ONCE WITH SHADOW POSSESSION TECHNIQUE...

ALL THE NINJA TOOLS I HAVE LEFT ARE 12 KUNAI KNIVES, NINE SHURIKEN, 12 METERS OF WIRE, ONE FLASH BOMB AND ONE LETTER BOMB...

.....

SHE... LEAVES NO OPENINGS, OFFENSIVELY OR DEFENSIVELY.

I BET SHE'S A CHESS-WHIZ.

MAN... I FEEL LIKE I'M PLAYING WITHOUT A ROOK OR A BISHOP.

SHF

AS LONG AS HE CAN'T READ THEIR MOVEMENTS, HE HAS NOWHERE TO GO...I'LL FIND HIM AND FINISH HIM.

IT'S NO USE HIDING.

TTT SSS

TIME TO ROLL...

TS SHF

ALL I GOTTA DO NOW IS GO FOR IT.

OKAY. ALL SET...

CHINK

SHOOP

TAK.

THE TIME BETWEEN ATTACKS WILL MAKE OR BREAK THIS!

I HAVE NINE ATTACKS...

HOP

!

THUNK

SHUU!

BOOM

GIVE IT UP! THE JUTSU CONTROLLED WITH THIS MELODY IS UNBEATABLE... NOTHING CAN WORK.

SHWIP

FWOOM

TWITCH

WHERE IS HE?!

QUIT SCAMPERING AROUND, YOU RAT!!

!!

SWISSH

FWOON

SHOOM

OVER THERE!

TAK

FWAA

SHUNG

SPING

TSK!

THUNK

A PLOY TO CONCEAL HIS LOCATION...?!

STOP MESSING AROUND!!

シン SHF

SWISH

SWISH

SWISH

SWISH

WHAT'S HE UP TO?!

SCURRYING LIKE THAT...

SHUK

THE MOST INTERESTING RULE IN CHESS IS...

TAK

FWIP

!!

FOOSH

SSH

...FLASH?!

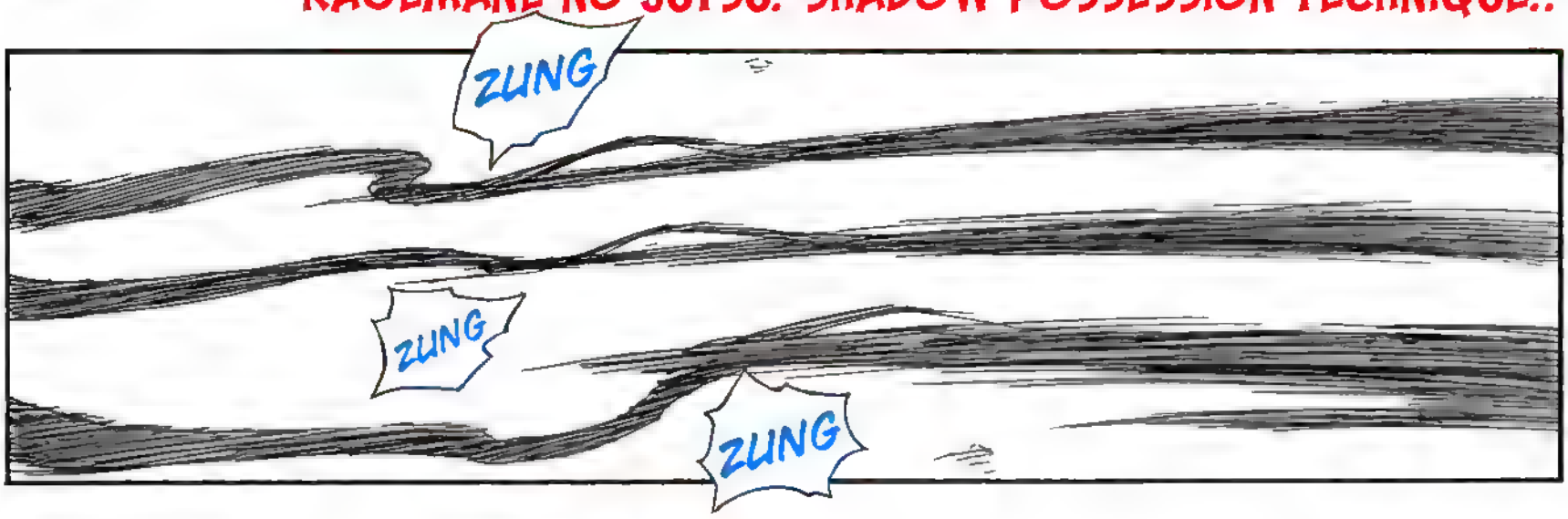
!?

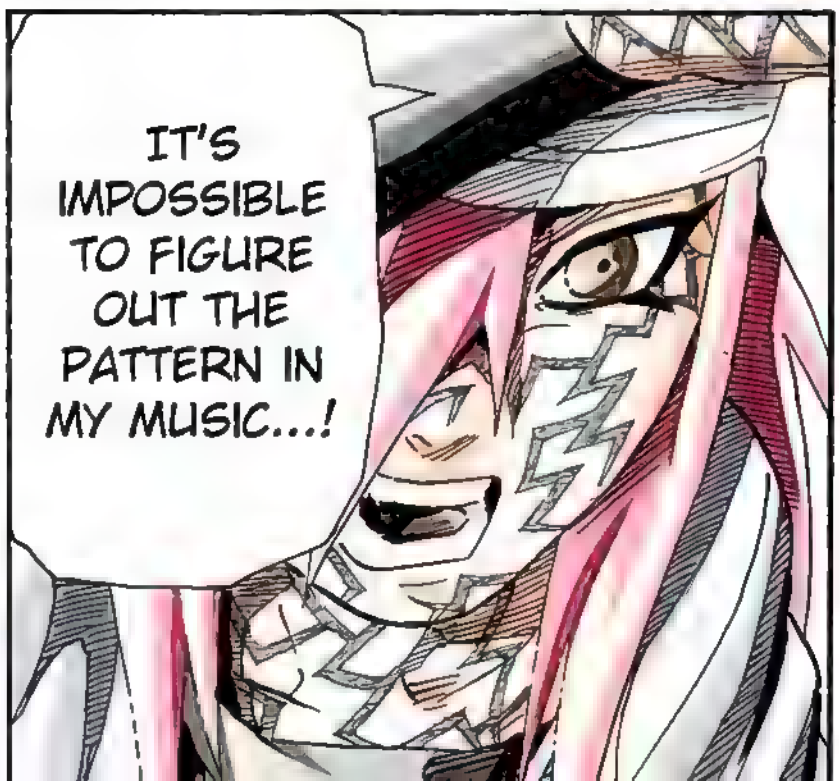
...ONCE YOU GET YOUR OPPONENT'S PAWNS, THEY BECOME YOURS TO COMMAND.

SWPT

影真似(かげまね)の術(じゅつ)!!

KAGEMANE NO JUTSU! SHADOW POSSESSION TECHNIQUE!!*





!?

THERE'S ANOTHER WAY TO READ YOUR COMMAND PATTERNS.

I WASN'T LISTENING TO THE MUSIC...

YOUR FINGERS.

THE WORLD OF KISHIMOTO MASASHI
MY PERSONAL HISTORY: A STORY TOO EMBARRASSING TO WRITE DOWN, PART 2

FOR THE ALMOST ONE YEAR I DECIDED TO IDENTIFY MYSELF WITH VULPANTHER, I ENCOUNTERED MANY DIFFICULTIES. VULPANTHER IS YELLOW. BOTTOM LINE, HE'S SYMBOLIZED BY THE COLOR YELLOW! SO, WHENEVER I HAD TO CHOOSE A COLOR, I CHOSE YELLOW! ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING HAD TO BE YELLOW!

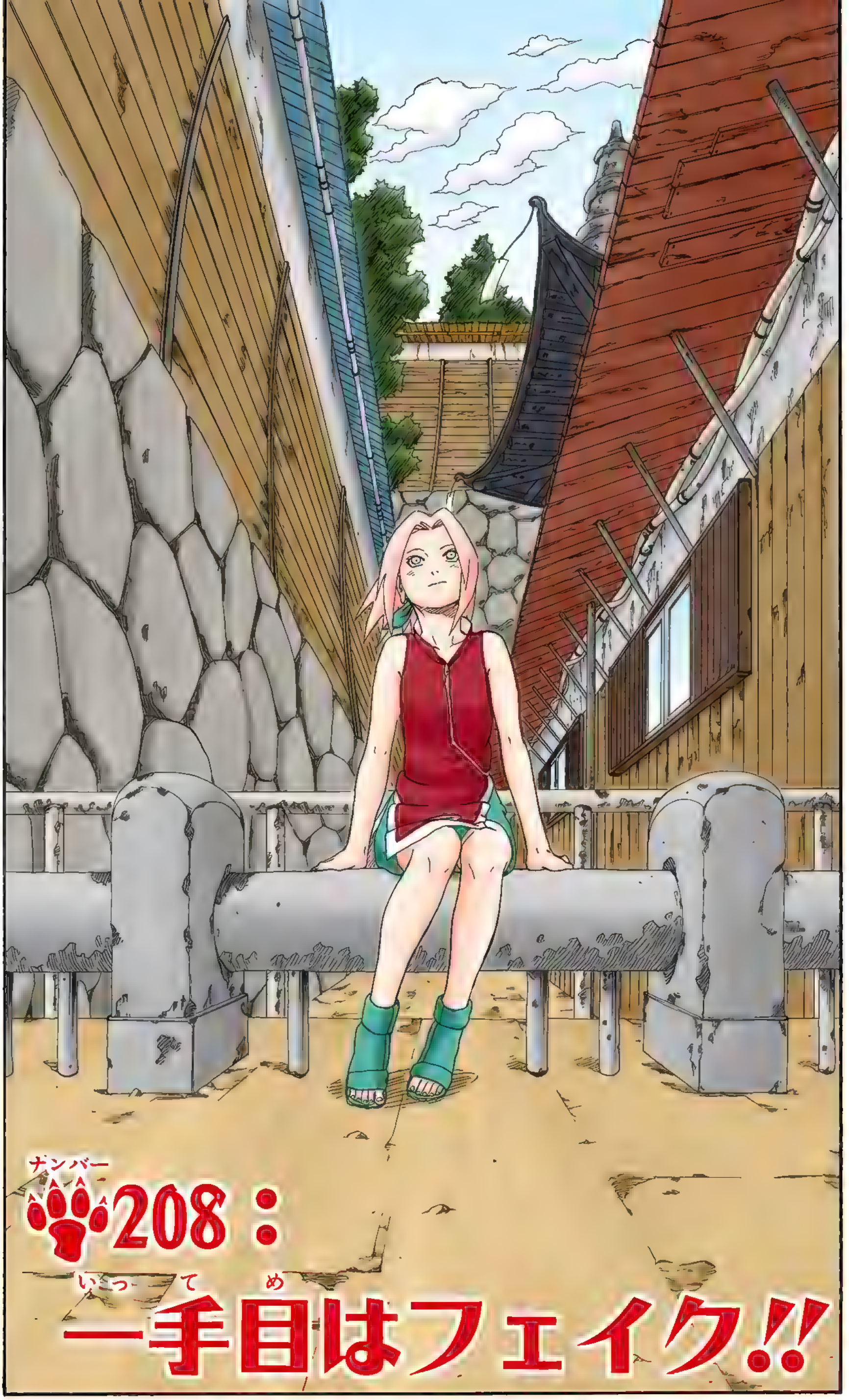
VULPANTHER WORE A YELLOW JACKET SO, OF COURSE, I WORE YELLOW CLOTHES. BUT... THE YELLOW CLOTHES LOOKED WORSE THAN I THOUGHT.

VULPANTHER IS (SYMBOLIZED BY) CURRY. BOTTOM LINE, HE LOVES CURRY AND RICE! SO, EVERYTIME SOMEONE ASKED ME, "WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE FOOD?" OF COURSE I ANSWERED "CURRY AND RICE!" ...FOR SOMEREASON, IN THIS KIND OF SENTAI SERIES, MANY CHARACTERS WHOSE SYMBOLIC COLOR WAS YELLOW LIKED CURRY AND RICE. THE YELLOW RANGER OF THE GO RANGER (MIGHTY MORPHIN POWER RANGERS IN ENGLISH) WAS NO EXCEPTION.

VULPANTHER IS A CHARACTER THAT EATS TON OF CURRY AND RICE AND ALWAYS ASKS FOR SECONDS. HE PILES UP PLATES ONE AFTER ANOTHER, EATING AS FAST AS WANKO SOBA SPEED-EATERS. AS FAR AS I CAN REMEMBER, HE WOULD PILE UP ABOUT 20 PLATES. BASICALLY, ONE LOOK AT HIM REVEALED CLEARLY THAT HE LOVED CURRY AND RICE.

SO YOU CAN IMAGINE HOW EXCITED I GOT ON DAYS WHEN CURRY AND RICE WAS SERVED FOR DINNER!! A WANNABE VULPANTHER DEFINITELY HAD TO ASK FOR SECONDS NO MATTER WHAT, EVEN WHEN HE FELT LIKE THROWING UP OR THAT HIS STOMACH WAS GOING TO BURST. THEN I WOULD SAY TO MY MOTHER, "SECONDS, PLEASE! NEXT PLATE!"
MY MOTHER WOULD SAY, "...? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
IF YOU WANT SECONDS, PUT IT ON THE SAME PLATE YOU HAVE NOW!! NO NEED TO DIRTY ANOTHERY PLATE!!"
I THOUGHT, "...CAN'T ARGUE WITH THAT..."

VULPANTHER ALSO CLIMBS WALLS. HE HAS SHARP CLAWS AND CAN CLIMB NO MATTER WHAT, EVEN IF THE WALLS IS PERPENDICULAR TO THE GROUND! OF COURSE, I HAD TO CLIMB AND PERPENDICULAR WALL I SAW WHEN PLAYING SUN VULCAN. ...EVEN I, AS A FIRST GRADER, KNEW THAT NO ONE COULD CLIMB A PERPENDICULAR WALL. BUT, IN FRONT OF VULEAGLE AND VULSHARK, I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO GO FOR IT. AS I RAN TOWARD THE WALL, I THOUGHT, "...HONESTLY, PLAYING VULPANTHER IS TOUGH..." JUMP!! AND SPLAT, I FLATTENED MYSELF AGAINST THAT WALL! SCRATCH!!
"OUCH!!" ...MY FINGERNAILS GOT TORN OFF.
...FROM THAT DAY FORWARD, I QUIT PLAYING VULPANTHER



208: FAKE OUT!!

IT CAN'T BE!!

HE READ THEIR MOVES... BY MEMORIZING MY FINGER MOVEMENTS...?

twitch

!

YOUR RIGHT INDEX FINGER AND RING FINGER...

IMPOSSIBLE!

...I CAREFULLY EXAMINED THE MOVEMENTS OF EACH OF YOUR FINGERS AND THOSE THREE...

THAT'S HOW I WAS ABLE TO ANALYZE AND MEMORIZE THEM.

WHILE YOU WERE BUSY DODGING MY ATTACK AND SEARCHING FOR ME...

...THE GUY IN THE MIDDLE BENDS FORWARD.

AND YOUR LEFT MIDDLE FINGER AND PINKY. WITH THE MELODY THOSE FINGERS PLAY...

SQUISH

プル

SQUISH

プル

SQUISH

プル

SQUISH

UGH.

SHHF

...TSK...

THEY'RE BOUND WITH MY SHADOW POSSESSION TECHINIQUE.

IT'S USE-LESS.

NOW FOR SOME HARDCORE CHESS.

SHUF

.....

ズイ SNIK

HMPH.

SHLUGK

IT'S MY TURN TO CORNER YOU WITH MY PAWNS.

I TOLD YOU NO ONE'S EVER SURVIVED HEARING MY FLUTE, STUPID!!

THE FLUTE IS MY ONLY WEAPON!

AT LEAST ARM YOURSELF WITH A KUNAI KNIFE...

WHY SO RELAXED?

FOOSH

PRETTY CONFIDENT, HUH?

SKF

SHOOM

TAI! DISPEL!!

BOOF

BOOF

BOOF

TOO BAD YOU DIDN'T GET TO USE YOUR PAWNS!

.....!

SKREE

NOW, IT'S MY TURN!!

OH...

WHAT ?!

!?

GAH

SHADOW POSSESSION! SUCCESS!!

THEY WERE ONLY DECOYS.

I TOLD YOU I'D CORNER YOU WITH MY PAWNS.

AND THE SECOND MOVE HITS THE TARGET. BASIC STRATEGY, GET IT?

THE FIRST MOVE IS A FAKE-OUT.

!

GRRRR

プルプル

PUNK ...!

NEVER THOUGHT I'D USE SECOND STATE HERE.

FFMMM

I... GOTTA TAKE HIM DOWN BY FORCE.

FFMM

FUMP

...THIS LITTLE PUNK IS GOOD.

I HATE TO ADMIT IT...BUT I GOTTA HAND IT TO HIM...

SHOOOO

FROM HERE ON, THINGS WILL NOT GO ACCORDING TO YOUR PLAN!

YOU'RE SMART, BUT...

SHIVER

ゾゾゾ

TWITCH

ピル

ピル

TWITCH

.....

WHAT... IS SHE ...?!

ビー

GULP

!?

SHE GOT OUT OF MY SHADOW POSSESSION... WHAT'S THAT INCREDIBLE CHAKRA?!

GRRMM

ギギギ

WHAAT?!

HAVE TO USE THAT TECH-NIQUE...

FWIP

FWIP

SHE BROKE MY TECHNIQUE.

TOK

SHE CAN'T GET AWAY... NO MORE CONSERVING CHAKRA...!!

KAGE KUBISHIBARI NO JUTSU! ART OF SUFFOCATING DARKNESS!!

THIS ISN'T THE SAME JUTSU!

THE SHADOW'S PUTTING PRESSURE ON ME DIRECTLY... IT FEELS LIKE REAL HANDS... BUT...

SHF

!!?

SHOOOO

GRRR

TAKE THIS...

WHT

AT THIS DISTANCE... THIS FORCE WILL BREAK MY JUTSU.

ACK... WHAT STRENGTH!!

SHLUGK

魔笛・夢幻音鎖!!

MUSICAL GENJUTSU! CHAINS OF FANTASIA!!

.....

GLARE

ギロ

GENJUTSU?!

WHOA! IS THIS...

!!

ピクン

UGH...

THUNK

TWITCH

SHWIP

SWHOO

SHWIP

HMPH... WHAT'RE YOU AIMING FOR?

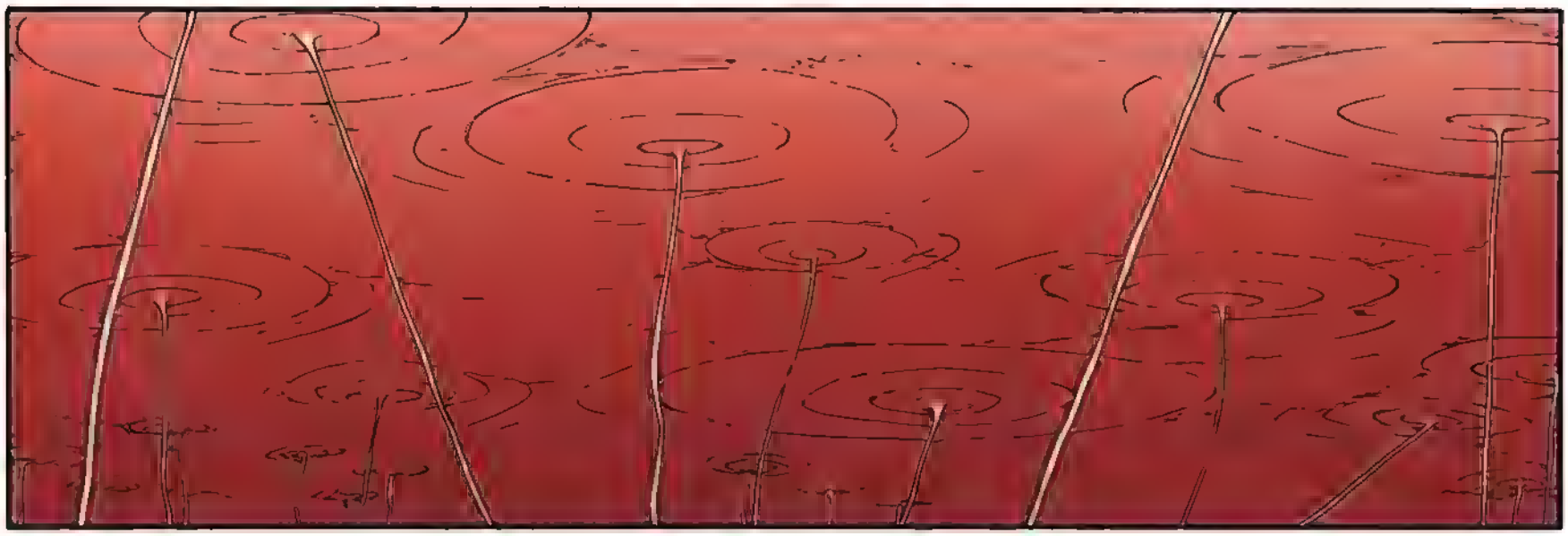
SHOOO

.....

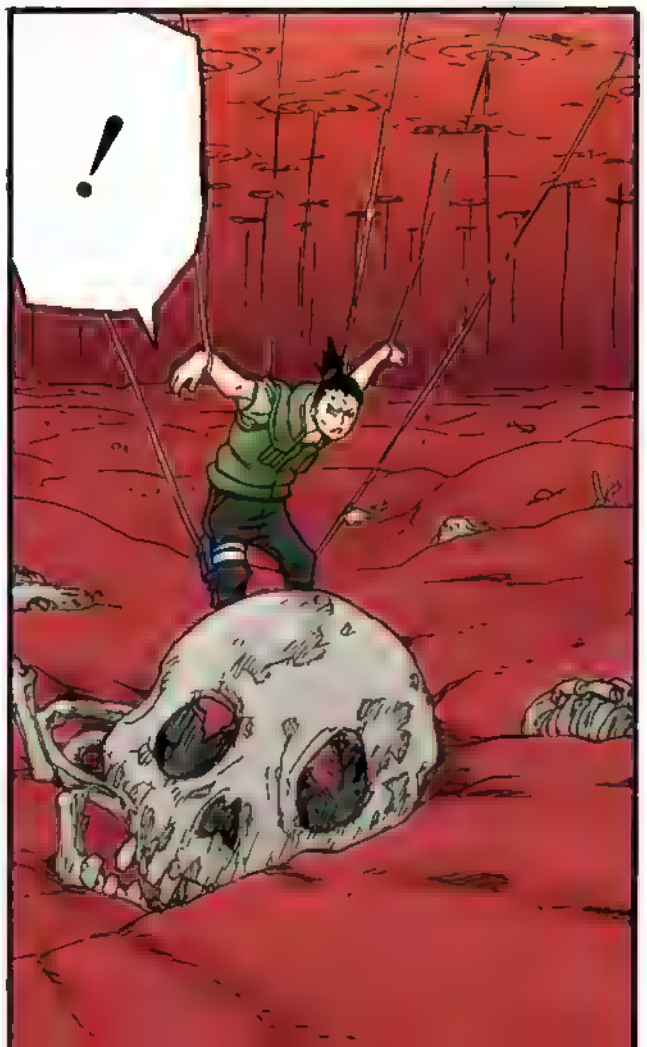
TWITCH

TWITCH

TWITCH



SHLIP
!?


!

SHHHHUP

!!?

HEH HEH... AT THE SECOND STATE, I CAN DO ALL SORTS OF MUSICAL GENJUTSU WITH THIS FLUTE...

BUT OF EVERYTHING, THIS SUITS THE TWERP BEST...

WHOAA-AAAAH ...!!

.....!

THIS GENJUTSU STOPS ITS PREY'S PHYSICAL MOVEMENTS AND BINDS IT!

GAH... AAUGH!!

SHF

TAK

UNNH...

TELL ME... HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE THE ONE TIED UP?

FWUP

GRIN

DIE, YOU RAT.

THUMP

!!?

HUH ...?!

トス

THWAP

HE USED HIS OWN SHADOW TO MOVE HIS FINGERS ...!

スッ

SSHH

HE BROKE MY GENJUTSU WITH SELF-INFLICTED PAIN?!

RRUMP

AND THE SECOND MOVE HITS THE TARGET. BASIC STRATEGY, REMEMBER?

TOLD YOU, THE FIRST MOVE IS A FAKE-OUT...

HE WAS JUST PRETENDING TO BE TRAPPED...

ARGH!

FWIP

NO...NOT EXACTLY. THE MOST CARELESS MISTAKE YOU MADE WAS SAYING THAT THE FLUTE'S YOUR ONLY WEAPON.

ピル ピル TWITCH TWITCH

ズズ... SHWOOO...

BUT THIS SECOND MOVE...IT'S DIFFERENT FROM THE ONE I JUST USED.

WITH THE ART OF SUFFOCATING DARKNESS, THE CLOSER THE TARGET IS, THE MORE TIGHTLY I CAN BIND IT.

SCUFF

...I MOVED IN TOO CARE-LESSLY...

...NO ...

.....!!

.....!?

...THAT'S RIGHT... I THREW THAT KNIFE DOWN IN FRONT OF ME AS THOUGH I MISSED...

...JUST SO YOU'D PICK IT UP AND COME AT ME WITH IT...

ズズ... SCUFF

CAN'T BE...!